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Ciudad Rodrigo
Alcantara
Merida
Badajoz
Truxillo
Placentia
Talavera
Almaraz
Oropesa
Xeres
Seville
Cordova
Jaen
Granada
Antequera
Malaga
Gibraltar
Strait of Gibraltar
Ceuta
Tarifa
Algeziras
Cadiz
Ronda
Almeria
Mazarron
Orihuela
Alicante
Elche
Alcoy
Denia
Xativa
Valencia
Morella
Vinaroz
Peniscola
Balearic Islands
Majorca
Palma
Minorca
Iviza
Formentera
Sea
Mediterranean
AFRICA
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Tangier
Mequinez
Fez
Algiers
Oran
Tlemsen
Mascara
Tenez
Cherchel
Bona
Constantina
Bugia
Biserta
Tripoli
Gibraltar
Strait of Gibraltar
Ceuta
KINGDOM OF SPAIN

A

VIEW OF SPAIN;

COMPRISING

A DESCRIPTIVE ITINERARY,

OF

EACH PROVINCE,

AND A

GENERAL STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF THE COUNTRY;

INCLUDING

ITS POPULATION, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, AND FINANCES;
ITS GOVERNMENT, CIVIL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS;
THE STATE OF THE ARTS, SCIENCES, AND LITERATURE;
ITS MANNERS, CUSTOMS, NATURAL HISTORY, *&c.*

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

ALEXANDER DE LABORDE.

IN FIVE VOLUMES.

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CONTENTS

OF THE

SECOND VOLUME.

ANDALUSIA.

	Page
THE Sierra Morena	1
Itinerary from Merida to Cordova	*ibid.*
First passage in the Sierra Morena	4
Second passage *idem*	8
General observations on Andalusia	*ib.*
Abstract of the History of Andalusia . . .	17

THE KINGDOM OF CORDOVA.

Road from the frontiers of La Mancha to Cordova .	22
Cordova	24
Zehra, an Arabian town; fabulous account of it .	26
Environs of Cordova	38

THE KINGDOM OF SEVILLE.

Road from Cordova to Seville	*ib.*
Seville	42
Environs of Seville	57
Italica or Santiponce	59
Observations on the road from Seville to Cadiz .	61
Road from Carmona to Cadiz	62
Isle of Leon	67

Road

2067058

Page
Road from the Isle of Leon to Cadiz . . . 68
Cadiz 69
Its situation . . . . . *ib.*
Its port and commerce 74
Environs of Cadiz 78
Road from Cadiz to the frontiers of the kingdom of Granada 83
Road from Ecija to the same 85
Road from the frontiers of the kingdom of Seville to Malaga . . . . . *ib.*

THE KINGDOM OF GRANADA.

Malaga 88
Road from the frontiers of Seville to Granada . . 96
Granada 97
The Alhambra 102

THE KINGDOM OF JAEN.

Road from the Sierra Morena to Alcala-la-real . 108
—— to Jaen 111
Another road 112
Jaen 115
Statistical abstract relative to Andalusia . . . 118
Manners, habits, customs, &c. of the Andalusians 148
Of the women called Majas 149

THE KINGDOM OF MURCIA.

General observations 151
Road from the frontiers of La Mancha to Murcia . 158
Murcia 173
Road from Murcia to Lorca 192
—— to the frontiers of the kingdom of Valencia . 206
—— from Albacete to the same frontiers . . 209
Almanza 210
Plain of Almanza 211

Statistical

Page
Statistical abstract relative to the kingdom of Murcia 212
Characters, manners, and customs of the Murcians 230

THE KINGDOM OF ARAGON.

General observations 237
Road from the frontiers of Catalonia to Zaragoza . 245
Zaragoza 252
Environs of Zaragoza 270
Road to the frontiers of New Castile . . . 272
Another 276
Statistical abstract of the kingdom of Aragon . . 285

THE KINGDOM OF NAVARRE.

General observations 311
Road from Bayonne to Pampeluna 316
Pampeluna 318
Road from Pampeluna to St.-Jean-Pié-de-Port, by Roncevaux 321
—— from Pampeluna to Old Castile . . . 323
Statistical abstract relative to Navarre . . . 326

BISCAY, AND ITS CANTONS.

General observations 331
Guipuzcoa 333
Alava 346
Road from the frontiers of France to St. Sebastian, Bilbao, and Orduna . . . . . *ib.*
Road from Bidazoa to the same places . . . 347
Fontarabia 349
Bilbao. 356
Road from the frontiers of France to those of Old Castile by Guipuzcoa and Alava . . . 360
Vittoria 364
Statistical abstract of Biscay 367
Character, manners, customs, &c. of the Biscayans . 381

The

Page
The Mountains of St. Andero 388
St. Andero . . . . . *ib.*
Character of the inhabitants 391
Commerce . . . . . *ib.*

PRINCIPALITY OF THE ASTURIAS.

General observations 400
Road from the frontiers of the kingdom of Leon to Oviedo 405
Oviedo . . . . . *ib.*
Road from Oviedo to Gijon 409
—— to Aviles 410
—— to Santillana by Onis la Fuente, Nansa, and Cabeza 413
Santillana 414

THE KINGDOM OF GALICIA.

General observations 421
Road from Astorga in the kingdom of Leon to St. Jago de Compostella 427
Compostella, or St. Jago 431
Road from Lugo to Corunna 433
Corunna 434
Road from St. Jago to Corunna 438
—— from Corunna to Ferrol . . . . . *ib.*
Ferrol 439
Road from St. Jago to Tuy, by Vigo 442
Vigo 443
Tuy 444
Bayona 446
Road from Tuy to Orense 447
—— from Vigo to Orense . . . . . *ib.*
—— from Ponte-Vedra to Orense 448
—— from St. Jago to Orense . . . . . *ib.*
Orense 449

Page
Road from Orense to Requejo 450
—— from Lugo to Mondonedo 451
—— on the Sea-side 453
Ribaldeo and Cape Ortegal . . . . . *ib.*
Cape Finisterre 454
Statistical abstract relative to Galicia . . . 455
Character, manners, &c. of the Galicians . . 462

THE KINGDOM OF LEON.

General observations 464
Road from Palencia to Leon 468
Leon 474
Road from Leon to Astorga 478
—— from Palencia to Medina-del-Rio-Seco . . 480
Medina-del-Rio-Seco . . . . . *ib.*
Road from that town to Torre-de-Sillas . . . 481
—— from Torre-de-Sillas to Medina-del-Campo . 483
Medina-del-Campo . . . . . *ib.*
Road from Astorga to Zamora and Toro, by Benavente 484
Toro 487
Road from the frontiers of Spanish Estremadura and the kingdom of Leon to Salamanca . . 488
Salamanca 494
Road from Salamanca to Avila 499
Alva de Tormes 500
Road from Salamanca to Medina-del-Rio-Seco . . 502
—— to Ciudad-Rodrigo 504
Statistical abstract of the kingdom of Leon . . 509
Character, manners, &c. of the inhabitants of the kingdom of Leon 511

ACCOUNT

OF

SPAIN.

ANDALUSIA.

THE SIERRA MORENA.

The Sierra Morena, or Black Mountain, extends from Estramadura to La Mancha. The word Sierra, strictly speaking, signifies, a chain of mountains.

There is a way from Estramadura to Cordova, across this mountain; but as it is little frequented, and runs with scarce any intermission through deserts (despoblados,) we shall content ourselves with giving the route, without describing it.

From Merida to Medelin,	5 leagues.
To Castuera,	7
To Monterrubio,	6
To La Venta de la Estrella,	7
To Cordova,	9

The following road leading from Llerena to Seville is a better one:

From Llerena to Guadalcanal,	4 leagues.
To Cazalla,	3
Cantillana,	7
The Guadalquivir, a ferry-boat,	
Brenes,	1
Seville,	4

The road from Llerena to Guadalcanal lies through a flat desert country, at the termination of which commences the Sierra Morena, previously to our reaching which we see, to the left, the villages of Henojosa, Cabeza del Buey, and Fuente Ovejuna; and, to the right, those of Hornachos, Cazas, Reyna, and others.

Guadalcanal is a little town containing about one thousand inhabitants, two parishes, and four convents, two of Monks and two of Nuns: it is dependant on the order of St James. About a mile to the north east of it there are silver mines which yield a considerable revenue, and the working of which is curious. Cazalla, three leagues farther, contains nearly the same number of inhabitants and some convents: this part of the Sierra Morena is rich and well cultivated. This is not the case with the seven leagues between Cazalla and Cantillana, the greater part of which is uncultivated, and the paltry public house Del Romero is the only place of refreshment on the road. To the left is seen the ancient town of Constantine, or

Constantia

Constantia Julia, famous with the Romans for its agreeable situation among the mountains. On leaving Cantillana, the ancient Basilippa, according to Rodrigo Caro, we pass the Guadalquivir, enter the beautiful plain of Seville, and arrive at Seville, after travelling four leagues. This part of the Sierra Morena is not so interesting as that on the road from Madrid to Cordova, where there are several settlements of foreigners established, the wise and patriarchal regulations of which must have been attended with the greatest success, if the same care had been taken to encourage and support those establishments that had been taken to found them.

The new settlement in the Sierra Morena offered, at its commencement, many real advantages. It prospered under the attentive and vigilant eye of Olavidé, by whom it had been formed; it was composed of French and Germans, but soon declined after his disgrace. The funds assigned for its support, though small, were badly paid, and the works were stopped; there was no longer the same active superintendence, and at length all encouragement failed. The government was in too great a hurry to levy taxes on the new settlers, who became disgusted; agriculture was neglected, a great number of the inhabitants quitted the place and returned to their own country, while many of those who remained died and were not replaced. The number of the settlers was reduced in 1788 to 7918, and

among those many were beggars. Agriculture is at present very low, owing to the want of consumption, and of vents for the sale of the produce of the land, to the total privation of manufactures, and the little care that is taken to excite industry and keep up emulation. Thus every thing contributes to the decay of the settlement. The only real advantages now derived from it are good roads and safe travelling. The affairs of this settlement are under the direction of an intendant, whose department extends likewise to the new settlements in Andalusia, between Cordova and Seville. These were founded at the same period and with the same views, but have been long declining still more decidedly. La Carlota, or Caroline, and Fuente-Palmera are the chief places of it: they were reduced in 1792 to 630 settlers.

The road or first passage across the Sierra Morena, 19 leagues.

Venta de Cardenas to		
Santa Helena, (a village)	3	leagues.
La Carolina, (a town)	2	
Los Carboneros, (a village)	1	
Guadarraman, (a village)	1	
Baylen, (a village)	1½	
The Rumblar, (a river and bridge) Casa del rey,	1	
Anduxar, (a town)	9½	

We have already travelled to the foot of the Sierra Morena, by the road from Madrid, through La

La Mancha, where we found Venta de Cardenas, after which we begin to ascend the mountains.

This was a dangerous and difficult way, through which it was necessary to pass to go into Andalusia: it was the terror of travellers, the most intrepid could not pass it without trembling; at every step new dangers presented themselves. The mountains insensibly approached each other, and seemed meeting over the head of the passenger, or closing before him to stop his way. Rocks, seemingly suspended in air, threatened to crush him to pieces in their fall. The rugged ground scarcely afforded any place for the feet of the horses. The Spaniards named this passage Despèna Perros, the energetic sense of which it is not easy to give in translation: the literal signification is, Kill-dog over precipice.

The difficulty of the passage was not its only danger; travellers were exposed to the attack of wolves assembled in packs, particularly in winter; robbers, secure against all pursuit, plundered with impunity; assassinations were frequent; not a house, not a hut was to be met with in the distance of ten or twelve leagues.

This passage was opened in the reign of Charles III.; the rocks have been blown up, the way widened and made even, the ascents and descents rendered easier, and an excellent road made, which is now travelled without difficulty or danger. A great number of bridges has been built, acclivities secured

secured by stone-work, walls breast-high run along the edges of precipices, and at certain distances houses have been erected which are inhabited. Along the road from the other side of the mountain new settlements of foreigners have been established, to each of which a portion of the country has been assigned to be cleared. For this road Spain is indebted to Charles Le Maur, a French engineer, who was employed upon it in the year 1779.

Commencing at Venta de Cardenas, it leads to Santa-Helena, the first village of the new settlement. This village is a long straight street, pleasantly situated: it has a post-house, and a parish church, in which there is a fine painting of the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa, by Biagiode Prado. Going from Santa-Helena we leave on the left the castle of Las Navas, known by the battle fought near the spot on the 16th July, 1212, between Aben-Mohamed, the Moorish king of Cordova, at the head of an army of 400,000 men, and the kings of Castile, Navarre, and Aragon, commanding 200,000. The three monarchs obtained a complete victory, in spite of the ruggedness and difficulties of the ground, and with a loss so small that it seems incredible. The historians make it only thirty men, while they state that of the Moors to be 200,000: one is as probable as the other.

The same road leads, two leagues farther on, to

to La Carolina, a little town which is the capital of the settlement. The entrance to it is ornamented with two towers; the streets are straight; the houses, which have only one story, are simple but regular, and it is embellished with fountains and walks planted with trees. Here the road becomes still more agreeable, being lined on both sides with trees, and passing through a country planted with vines, olive, and fruit trees. It is a league from La Carolina to Los Carboneros, and thence another league to Guadarraman, both new villages.

As we proceed, a number of single houses are seen rising over the face of the country, and we pass by the villages of Llanos and Los Rios; we then descend the mountain, and leaving the Sierra Morena, arrive at Baylen, an ancient village, situated in a country fertile in corn, and abounding in olive trees. It has a parish church of a bad gothic taste, though there is something pleasing in the execution of the front. This country is famous for a fine breed of Andalusian horses. In leaving it we pass the building of a great Venta, which is forsaken, and crossing the Rumblar over a stone bridge, soon find ourselves at Casa del Rey, a house in the middle of the woods, which is the post or stage, and whence we have the first glimpse of the Quadalquivir.

Here the new settlement of the Sierra Morena terminates. We then proceed to Anduxar, a town in

in the kingdom of Cordova, and come into Andalusia.

The second passage across the Sierra Morena, 12 leagues.

From Venta de Cardenas to the village of Los Carboneros,	6 leagues.
Linares, (a town)	6

This road, which is less frequented, leads into Andalusia, and to the kingdom of Jaen; it branches off likewise from the village of Los Carboneros, and runs for three leagues through a plain covered with large oaks; it then rises on the sides of a lofty mountain, and proceeds to Linares, a town in the kingdom of Jaen.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON ANDALUSIA.

Andalusia is a large and beautiful country, situated to the south of Spain, on the coast of the Mediterranean, and stretching likewise along the Atlantic, near the meeting of the two seas: it is bounded by lofty mountains, which separate it from the adjacent provinces. It was the Bœtica of the Romans. It then formed only one country, but was divided under the Moors into four different kingdoms, making as many distinct provinces, called the kingdom of Jaen, of Cordova, of Grenada, and of Seville, the last of which has exclusively retained the name of Andalusia, though it makes but a part of the country which formerly bore that appellation. In treating here of

of Andalusia we shall consider it in the whole extent, dividing it into separate kingdoms. This province is enclosed by Portugal, Estramadura, New Castille, La Mancha, and Murcia, and is open to the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. It is long and narrow, forming an oblong irregular quadrangle, of eighty-seven leagues in length from east to west, and upwards of forty in breadth from north to south at the eastern extremity to the middle of it, and from twenty to thirty leagues at the western extremity. To the east it adjoins the kingdom of Murcia; to the east, south, and south-east, the Mediterranean; to the south-west the Ocean; to the west the kingdom of Algarva, and the province of Entre-Tajoy-Guadiana in Portugal; to the north Estramadura and Old Castille.

The country is intersected, but fertile and agreeable. The kingdom of Cordova is mountainous almost throughout; that of Jaen is surrounded by a chain formed by the mountains of Segura, Quesada, Torres, and Sierra Morena, which are intermixed with deep valleys. It is divided in two by the Guadalquivir. The kingdom of Grenada is likewise very mountainous, especially towards Serrania de la Ronda, Sierra-Nevada, and the cape of Gates: it contains however plains of considerable extent, and delicious valleys abounding in springs.

The kingdom of Seville, now exclusively, but improperly,

improperly, denominated Andalusia, occupies the western part of Bœtica. It is of an irregular figure, fifty-eight leagues long from east to west, and twenty-seven broad from north to south: a point of it curves towards the Straits of Gibraltar, fourteen leagues from north to south, and nine from east to west. This kingdom is bounded to the east by that of Cordova; to the east and south-east by that of Grenada; to the south by the Atlantic and the Straits of Gibraltar; to the west by the kingdom of Algarva, &c.; and to the north by Estramadura. There are two sea-ports in this province, the one in the Mediterranean at Algeziras, the other on the Atlantic at Cadiz: the latter is spacious and beautiful, the best known, and the most frequented in Spain; its bay is eight leagues round. The principal towns of the kingdom of Seville are its own capital, Seville, an archiepiscopal see; Cadiz, an episcopal see, fortress, and sea-port; Santa-Maria, a sea-port; Xeres, Ecija, and Ossuna, inland towns. Its rivers are, the Saltes, Guadiana, Tinto, Odiel, Chanca, Verde, Barbate, Guadalette, Guadalquivir, Xenil, Guadianar, Guadayra, Las Feguas, Camdon, and San-Pedro.

The kingdom of Grenada occupies half of the eastern extremity, and all the southern part of Andalusia as far as the Straits of Gibraltar; it has the shape of a pyramid, with its base to the east, on the kingdom of Murcia, and its apex to the south-

south-west towards the Straits. Its length is fifty-eight leagues from the east to the south-east; the breadth at its apex seven from the south-west to the north-east, and at its base twenty-eight from south to north. It is bounded to the east and north-east, by the kingdom of Murcia; to the south and south-east, by the Mediterranean; to the west, by the kingdom of Seville; to the west and north-west, by that of Cordova; to the north-west and north, by that of Jaen. It has three sea-ports on the Mediterranean; that of Amunécar, defended by three forts, but of little importance; that of Almeria, which was celebrated under the Arabs; and that of Malaga, at present the most flourishing in trade, and the most frequented of the three. Its principal towns are; Grenada, the capital, an archiepiscopal see, Malaga, Almeria, Guadix, three episcopal sees, Motril, Marbella, Velez-Malaga, Baza, Vera, Ronda, Loja, Santa-Fé, Huesca, Antequera and Alhama. Its rivers are the Verde, Xenil, Las Feguas, Guadalentia, Guadavar, Guadalmeja, Rio de Almeria, Rio Frio, Guadalmerina, Darro, Andaraye, Guadix, Bravata, Marchan, Almancara, Aguas, Culebras, and Guadalete.

The kingdom of Cordova occupies the middle of Andalusia towards the north. It is twenty-four leagues in length, from north-west to south-east; in breath it is irregular, being at its greatest ex-

tent

tent upwards of fourteen leagues, from south-west to north-east. It is bounded to the south and east, by the kingdoms of Granada and Jaen; to the south-west and west, by the kingdom of Seville; to the north by La Mancha, Old Castille, &c. Cordova, an episcopal see, is the capital of it: the only other town of any consequence in it is Archidona. This country is watered by the Cuyar, Guadalquivir, Xenil, Las Feguas, Castro, Lavilla, Guadiato, and Marbella.

The kingdom of Jaen occupies all the northern and eastern extremity of Andalusia. It is thirty leagues in length from east to west, and thirteen in breadth from north to south. It is bounded to the east, by the kingdom of Murcia; to the south, by that of Grenada; to the west, by that of Cordova; to the north, by La Mancha, &c. Its principal towns are, Jaen, the capital, a bishop's see, Ubeda, Baeza, and Anduxar. Its rivers are, the Guadalquivir, Segura, Guadarmena, Guadaratar, Vega, Cigarrales, and Viveras.

ANDALUSIA CONTAINS

Two Archbishoprics	Seville.	
	Grenada.	
Six Bishoprics	Cordova.	
	Jaen.	
	Cadiz.	In Seville.
	Malaga.	
	Guadiz.	In the kingdom of Grenada.
	Almeria.	

Eight

Eight Cathedral Chapters	Cordova. Jaen. Cadiz. In Seville. Seville Malaga. Guadix. Almeria, In the kingdom of Grenada. Grenada.
Fourteen Collegiate Chapters	One at Cordova. Two at Jaen. Three at Seville. Eight at Grenada.
Fourteen Commanderies of the military orders . . .	One in the kingdom of Cordova. Thirteen in the kingdom of Grenada.
Nine hundred and eighty-six parishes.	303 in the kingdom of Seville. 490 in the kingdom of Grenada. 75 in the kingdom of Cordova. 118 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Seven hundred and sixty religious houses	385 in the kingdom of Seville. 145 in the kingdom of Granada. 125 in the kingdom of Cordova. 105 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Ninety-nine Hospitals	43 in the kingdom of Seville. 37 in the kingdom of Grenada. 7 in the kingdom of Cordova. 12 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Fourteen ecclesiastical Asylums . .	6 in the kingdom of Seville. 3 in the kingdom of Grenada. 5 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Two Provincial Captains-general . .	1 at the port of Santa-Maria, for Seville. 1 at Grenada, for the coast.
Two grand Military Governments . .	1 for the kingdom of Seville. 1 for the coast of Grenada.
One Commandant . .	at the camp of Gibraltar.
One Governor of a Castle	at the Alhambra of Grenada.
One Provincial Military Intendant .	at Seville.
Three Provincial Intendants	at Grenada. Cordova. Jaen.

One

One Department of the Royal Marine. One Captain-general of the Marine. One Intendant of the Marine.	at the Isle of Leon, near Cadiz, in the kingdom of Seville.
One Royal Chancery	at Grenada.
One Royal Court of Law	at Seville.
Two Universities	at Seville. Grenada.
Twenty-five Colleges for the education of youth	10 in the kingdom of Seville. 10 in the kingdom of Grenada. 3 in the kingdom of Cordova. 2 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Thirty-nine cities	15 in the kingdom of Seville. 15 in the kingdom of Grenada. 4 in the kingdom of Cordova. 5 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Four hundred and fifty towns	163 in the kingdom of Seville. 180 in the kingdom of Grenada. 54 in the kingdom of Cordova. 13 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Three hundred and twenty villages	89 in the kingdom of Seville. 167 in the kingdom of Grenada. 39 in the kingdom of Cordova. 25 in the kingdom of Jaen.
Five Sea-ports	at Almunécar, Almeria, Malaga, in the kingdom of Grenada. Algesiras, Cadiz, in the kingdom of Seville.

Andalusia is full of mountains, more or less lofty, some very fertile, and others valuable for their pastures, or various sorts of mines, and marble quarries. The following are the most remarkable.

The Sierra Vermella or Vermeja, that is, Red Mountain,

Mountain, so called from the colour of the land, the Sierra de Filabre, the Sierra de Bujo, the Sierra Blanquilla, or White Mountain, from its imagined appearance at a distance, and the Sierra de Javal-Cohol, are in the kingdom of Grenada. The Vermeja and the Blanquilla are parts of the Sierra de Ronda.

The Sierra Leyta is in the kingdom of Seville.

The Sierra Quesada and the mountain of Torres are in the kingdom of Jaen, which they encompass by their junction with the Sierra Morena and the Sierra Segura. The latter of these runs from the north-east to the south-west, almost the whole breadth of the eastern corner of this kingdom.

The Sierra Nevada is a grand and beautiful mountain situated nearly in the centre of the kingdom of Grenada. It takes its name from the snow remaining upon it throughout the year. It is very lofty, can be seen at an immense distance, and is well known to mariners, who discover it very far out at sea.

The Sierra Alpuxara is likewise in the kingdom of Grenada; it is formed by the contiguity of several lofty mountains, and generally called the Alpuxaras. They afforded a retreat to a considerable number of Moors driven from Granada, who remained there a hundred and twenty years, till their total expulsion from Spain.

The

The Sierra de Cazorla sketches to the south in the kingdom of Jaen, to the north in that of Granada, and to the east in that of Murcia.

The Sierra Susanna, which is at the south-east of the kingdom of Jaen, and north-west of that of Grenada, runs from north-west to south-east.

The Sierra de Ronda lies on the southern and eastern part of the kingdom of Grenada; it stretches to the north and to the east in that of Seville, and runs south towards the straits of Gibraltar. It embraces a chain of several mountains which have different names.

The Sierra de Constantina is almost in the centre of the northern half of the kingdom of Seville, the breadth of which it crosses, running southward from the north-east; in a northern direction it joins the Sierra Morena; its branches extend from Estramadura, which they also enter, to the banks of the Guadalquivir, and into the kingdom of Cordova. The mountain of Fuente de la Mina forms part of the Sierra Constantina.

The Sierra Morena, Montes Mariani, begins near Alcaraz, in the vicinity of the great chain formerly called Montes Orospedani: it extends very widely into the kingdom of Cordova, which it almost completely covers from the frontiers of New Castille to the banks of the Guadalquivir. It runs eastward into the kingdom of Jaen, and westward a considerable way into Estramadura.

AN ABSTRACT OF THE HISTORY OF ANDALUSIA.

The Phenicians were the first people known to have landed in Andalusia, and the Carthaginians the first who entered it forcibly: they there formed settlements, but were driven out by the Romans, who were themselves expelled, in the fifth century of the Christian era, by the Vandals, who gave their name to the country they had conquered. These did not remain long undisturbed; the Goths led by Euric or Evaric, after subduing Navarre, Aragon, and Valencia, entered into Andalusia by Murcia, made themselves masters of it, and united it to the monarchy they had founded in Spain.

This country soon after became the theatre of bloody revolutions. Rising in rebellion against king Agila, a Goth, the people determined to choose a monarch, and in the year 548 elected Athanagilda. Cordova, however, refusing to acknowledge the new sovereign, erected itself into a republic. It was besieged in 550 by Agila, who was compelled to raise the siege. Athanagilda placed himself under the protection of Justinian the Greek Emperor, and ceded to him the country of Valencia with all the places as far as Gibraltar. Justinian, already master of Africa which Belisarius had just rested from the Vandals, sent an army in 552 into Andalusia, which submitted to the Greeks, and Cordova followed the example. For some

time the power of the Emperors of Constantinople kept the Gothic kings in awe; but in 583 Leuvigilda besieged Cordova, and made himself master of it. In 624 Suintilha, one of his successors, attacked the Greeks, drove them out of Andalusia, and united it to his crown.

The Arabs, led by Tarick the lieutenant of Musa, a general of the Caliph of Damascus, entered Spain by Andalusia in the year 711. One battle decided the fate of this Province, and of all Spain; it was fought on the 11th of November on the banks of the Guadalquivir, near Xeres de la Frontera, and Roderic the king of the Goths was killed in it. After this, Spain, including Andalusia, belonged to the Caliphs of Damascus, and then to those of Bagdad: the Generals of those Princes were made Governors of it; but Abdul-rahman, or Abderame, a prince of the blood royal of the Ommiades or Almohades, seized on the throne of Spain in 755. He was the sole survivor of that unfortunate family, having escaped the massacre of his house in 750 by the Abassides. Being pursued from the Euphrates to Mount Atlas, he crossed over from Africa into Spain, where he was received with raptures by the party attached to his family; the people of Andalusia eagerly joined him; he vanquished the army of the Abassides, killed their General, seized upon the sovereignty, and caused himself to be proclaimed king at Archidona on the fifteenth of March 756. He took the titles of

Caliph

Caliph and Miramolin, and fixed his court at Cordova, which became the capital of his empire and of all Spain. After this many revolutions took place among the Moors, of which Andalusia was the principal theatre.

Spain, particularly Andalusia, was then inhabited by Arabs of various countries and different tribes: the first of these, who arrived under the standards of Tarick, took the name of Spaniards, and considered themselves as superior to the others. The royal legion of Damascus was at Cordova, that of Emesa at Seville, that of Kennistrin or Chalcis at Jaen, and that of Palestine at Algeziras and at Medina-Sidonia. But in the course of time other Arabs and Moors mixed with their descendants; some were completely blended with those tribes, and others remained distinct. Murcia was inhabited by Mussulmans from Egypt, Toledo and its environs by settlers from Yemen and Persia, Grenada by 10,000 cavaliers from Syria and Irac, who were said to be of the noblest race in Arabia. These gave birth to so many hereditary factions, who, through jealousy, scattered among themselves and transmitted the seeds of divisions and troubles.

In the year 1027, several governors rebelled at the same time, and usurped the sovereignty of the countries over which they presided: they became kings at Saragossa, Toledo, Valencia, Orihuella, and Seville. This is the first era of the dismember-

ment of the empire of the Moors in Spain. Seville, however, soon renewed its allegiance to the kings of Cordova.

The difference of Sects occasioned new revolutions. Among the Moors who had shared in the conquest of Spain were the Agarénians, who came from the heart of Africa and had embraced the party of the Abassides. These attempted in 1144 to throw off the yoke of the Almoravides. In the confusion resulting from this attempt a new dismemberment of the kingdom of Cordova took place: Zafudola was king of Jaen, Grenada, and Murcia; Aben-gama of Seville; a general made himself king of Valencia, and Mahamet became king of Cordova; but he was dethroned by an Alfaqui or a Mussulman monk, who was driven out in his turn two years after by Aben-gama, who thus reunited the kingdoms of Seville and Cordova.

A new rebellion broke out in 1221 against the Moors Almoravides, or Almohades. The kingdom of Grenada was dissolved, and three new kings were made, Abdalla at Baeza, Abu-zeit at Valencia; and Aben-hut had almost all the rest of Andalusia: he reigned fifteen years. In 1236 Ferdinand II, king of Castile and Leon, attacked the dominions of this prince and laid siege to Cordova: but while that city held out with the greatest obstinacy its king Aben-hut was strangled in a bath, at Almeria, by his favourite, who was bent on usurping his crown. Cordova surrendered, and

Jaen

Jaen was taken after a siege of eight months. Seville formed itself into a republic. A new prince reigned in Murcia, and another in Algarva. It was at this time that a man taken from the plough was chosen by his fellow-citizens to govern them: Mahomed Alhamar founded the kingdom of Grenada; his state flourished, and his descendants for two centuries and a half preserved the throne he transmitted to them. The extent of this kingdom, when it was conquered by the Catholic kings, was seventy leagues long and thirty broad: it contained thirty two great towns, ninety seven smaller ones, upwards of two thousand boroughs and villages, and 3,000,000 of inhabitants. The revenue derived from it amounted annually to 700,000 ducats, a large sum in times when gold and silver were very rare.

The conqueror of Cordova and of Jaen appeared before the walls of Seville, which for a long time resisted all his forces: this is the most memorable siege in Spain since those of Saguntum and Numantia. Ferdinand attacked Seville by land and by sea, a large fleet blockading the mouth of the river Guadalquivir, whilst an innumerable army, commanded by himself in person, besieged the fortress on all sides. On this occasion the Castilians distinguished themselves by their constancy and intrepidity; but the Moors signalized themselves still more by their valour and heroism: famine alone compelled them to surrender, which they

they did on the twenty third of November 1248, after sustaining the siege for more than a year, when 300,000 men quitted Seville, some retiring to Grenada, and others crossing over to Africa, carrying immense wealth with them.

It was reserved for Ferdinand V and Isabella his queen, to give the last blow to the power of the Moors, by depriving them of the kingdom of Grenada at the end of the fifteenth century. The capture of Malaga, on the eighteenth of August 1487, facilitated the siege of Grenada: the Moors had collected their whole force in that city, where they were attacked in 1491, nor did the town surrender to the Catholic armies till after a siege of upwards of a year. After that event the Moors preserved nothing more in any province, and the whole country, as well as Andalusia, was united to the Spanish monarchy in 1492.

THE KINGDOM OF CORDOVA.

The road from the frontiers of La Mancha to Cordova, 12 leagues.

From the Sierra Morena to Anduxar.

Anduxar, a town in the Kingdom of Jaen: we enter immediately into that of Cordova by

Aldea-del-rio, (a village)	4 leagues.
El-carpio, (a village)	3
Ventas de Alcolen,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Guadalquivir, (river, the bridge of Alcolen)	
Another bridge over the same river,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Cordova, (a city)	

Soon after leaving Anduxar we enter into the Kingdom of Cordova, in which we find many hills, with a good soil, covered with olive-trees. Aldea-del-rio is the first place we meet with. It is a cheerful village of three great streets, situated on an eminence at the side of the Guadalquivir: the inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of wool. At the distance of a little more than two leagues from this village we see on one side Bujalance, a pleasant town, containing about 9,000 inhabitants, and thought to be the Calpurniana of the Romans: it is the chief place for the administration of justice by a corregidor, and has a board of public economy. Its manufactures are cloths fine and coarse, stuffs, serges, and flannels. It stands in the middle of an extensive plain abounding in corn, oil, and wine. A great quantity of kermes is cultivated in the woods belonging to it.

Between two and three miles further on we come to El carpio, the post, on a lofty site on the banks of the Guadalquivir. Some take this village for Corbulo, and others for Calpurniana. Philip II erected it into a marquisate for the House of Haro. It contains 1,500 inhabitants. We then go through a country partly stony, partly sandy, and here and there tolerably fertile, but naked and without trees, and arrive at Ventas de Alcolen, the post; after which we cross the bridge at Alcolen, which is built of black marble, and has 20 arches.

The country here begins to look handsome, and becomes

becomes more and more beautiful as we approach Cordova. We proceed, on the left, along the banks of the Guadalquivir, leaving the back of the Sierra Morena to the right, and soon after arrive at Cordova, in the view of which there is nothing striking. Before we enter it we again cross the Guadalquivir, over a bridge of thirteen arches, which at one end has a gate, and at the other is defended by a castle built by the Moors, and well taken care of.

CORDOVA,

in Latin Corduba, was founded by the Romans. Silius Italicus says that it was built before the second Punic war: Strabo attributes the establishment of it to Marcellus, known in the civil wars between Pompey and Cæsar, adding that it was peopled partly by a Roman colony, and partly by inhabitants of the country. Its first name was Corduba; it afterwards took that of Colonia-patricia, or rather it received that title, which appears in a medal struck under Augustus, and in an inscription reported by Gruter. Ptolemy calls the people who inhabited the country where it was built, Turdules.

This city passed from the hands of the Romans into those of the Goths. When the Moors invaded Spain it made an obstinate resistance: besieged in vain, it fell by the treachery of a shepherd, who introduced the besiegers into the town through

through a kind of drain. On this the governor and garrison fortified themselves in the church of St. George, where they held out for three months, but were at last stormed and cut to pieces, after defending themselves like heroes. It has been remarked that this governor, and that of Merida, were the only ones in all Spain who resisted for any length of time; the rest either fled or basely surrendered their places on conditions advantageous to themselves.

Cordova, under the Moors, was subject to the power of the caliphs of Damascus; but a favourable revolution soon took place. Abderame usurped the sovereignty, and, under the title of Miramolin, made it the capital of a new empire. Abderame II, who reigned in the ninth century, improved it very much; by his orders the streets and squares were paved, water conveyed from the Guadalquivir into the houses of the inhabitants by means of a number of pipes, and beautiful public fountains erected in different quarters. The court of this prince was magnificent and gallant; he displayed all the Asiatic ostentation and pomp in receiving the ambassadors of Constantine IX, son of Leo, Emperor of Constantinople. Large bodies of cavalry waited for them on the road, a brilliant infantry filled the avenues to the palace, the courts were overspread with superb Persian and Egyptian carpets, and the walls were covered with golden cloths. A sparkling throne was placed in an immense gallery, adorned

adorned with all the riches of the monarch. Here Abderame appeared surrounded by his family, his vizirs and courtiers. He heaped presents on the ambassadors, and sent a numerous retinue to escort them all the way back to Constantinople. The object of this embassy was a treaty of alliance against the caliphs Abassides of Bagdad, which was concluded and signed at Cordova.

At this period there were no less than 12,000 villages on the banks of the Guadalquivir; Cordova contained 200,000 houses and 900 public baths; the sovereign's guard was composed of 12,000 cavaliers richly accoutred; in his seraglio alone there were, of the prince's women, concubines, slaves, and eunuchs, 6,300 persons; in his dominions there were 80 great towns and 300 smaller ones; his annual revenues, exclusive of the taxes which were collected in kind on the lands, amounted to 12,045,000 gold dinars, equivalent to 5,018,750*l.* sterling, a prodigious sum at that time.

We hear of a town called Zehra, which Abderame II built at the foot of the mountains, two miles from Cordova, for a favourite slave of that name. The account given of it is worthy the Arabian Nights' Entertainments. Limpid streams meandered through the streets to render it cool, spouting fountains embellished the squares; the houses, of an airy graceful architecture, were uniform, with flat roofs, on which were gardens and orange

orange groves; there were 12,000 columns of granite and different Egyptian and Spanish marbles in the palace; in the principal apartment the walls were covered with ornaments of gold, and several animals of the same metal poured water into an alabaster bason. The pavilion, where Zehra spent the evenings with Abderame, was lined with gold and steel, studded with jewels, and lighted by a hundred crystal lamps filled with fragrant oils. The building of this palace and the town is said to have cost 7,500,000 gold dinars, or upwards of three millions sterling. Not a vestige remains of all this, it is not even known in the country whereabouts the palace and town stood; indeed the memory of it is only preserved by the account found in one or two authors, and it may well be suspected to have existed only in the pages of the writers of romance.

Cordova, under the Moors, had an Academy of Music, founded by Ali-xeriab; it was very celebrated, and its pupils were the delight of Asia. The music of those nations consisted chiefly in sweet and tender airs, sung by a musician accompanying himself on the lute, and sometimes several voices united. This town had likewise, at the same time, schools that were very famous for the sciences; several colleges for the education of youth, an academy founded by Alhaken, and another for the illustration of their religion, founded with the title of Alkoramistien, by Alcassemo, whose

whose real name was Ebn al cabi, and an extensive library, to which Alhaken added upwards of six hundred volumes.

In the time of the Moors a great number of fine buildings and superb mosques were erected in Cordova; but most of those which they left were thrown down in the year 1589, by an earthquake, which destroyed a great part of the town.

Cordova is pleasantly situated at the foot of high mountains, at the entrance of a spacious plain, on the north bank of the Guadalquivir, which flows along its walls, winding in the form of a crescent. The plain extends far to the south of the river: to the north of it, the mountains, which are branches from the Sierra Morena, terminate at the suburbs of the town; they are interspersed with a great number of pleasant villages, which are watered by many springs. The mountains, though craggy, are full of gardens, vineyards, and forests of olive and fruit trees, particularly orange and citron, the two last of which abound to such a degree that their flowers perfume the air, and the oranges and citrons are put up in heaps and sold for little or nothing in the markets; indeed there is no knowing what to do with them towards the end of autumn; they are scattered over the fields, where they turn into muck. It must not, however, be concealed that the lands of this town, which are capable of every kind of cultivation, are left to run wild

wild in many places. They have a fine breed of horses here, which are excellent.

Extent. The town forms nearly a square, running from east to west. It is surrounded with walls flanked with great towers, most of which have pinnacles: one part was built by the Romans, another by the Arabs. It is easy to distinguish the different modes of construction. Its circumference is very great, and it occupies a considerable space of ground; but a very great part of it is laid out in gardens and orchards. It has suburbs of immense extent; they are handsome, and so large that they might be considered as so many distinct towns. That to the east of Cordova is the largest, and contains a number of mills erected on the Guadalquivir.

Population. This capital, formerly so populous, is but thinly inhabited at present. The Moors being driven out by Ferdinand, that prince and his successors strove to attract other inhabitants, but their endeavours were partly fruitless. Towards the middle of the 17th century the population amounted only to about 60,000 persons, and now it is decreased to almost the half of that number.

Clergy. Cordova early received the light of Christianity, and frequently produced martyrs to the faith. There were several during the persecution by Diocletian, and a great many in the ninth century. In those days the zeal of the Christians invited them to challenge the martyr's crown by insulting the religion of the Moors, on which account a council composed of the bishops living in the dominions of Abderame was assembled, and held at Cordova in the year 850. It was there decided that no one should be considered as a martyr who, unnecessarily, exposed himself to death by attacking the Mahometan belief. The place is still shown where many Christians suffered martyrdom, it is called *Campo Santo*, and is near the episcopal palace; there is a marble monument

nument on the spot to preserve the memory of the circumstance.

The bishopric is very ancient; Osius its bishop attended the first council of Nice, as Legate of the Holy See. It existed in the time of the Moors, who allowed the Christians settled among them to pursue their religious customs. It is suffragan to Toledo: in its diocese there is a cathedral chapter, a collegiate chapter, and ninety two parish churches.

Cordova contains the cathedral and collegiate chapters, fifteen other parishes, forty convents for both sexes, two colleges for the education of young men, and twenty one hospitals or ecclesiastical asylums. The cathedral chapter includes eight dignities, twenty cannonries, ten prebends and twenty sub-prebends. There is besides a great number of priests and chaplains employed in divine worship. The collegiate chapter has the title of saint Hippolitus.

Civil and Military Administration. This town is the residence of the provincial intendant; it has a criminal judge; two supreme judges for the administration of justice, dependent on the Chancery of Grenada; a municipality composed of a certain number of magistrates, and a tribunal of the inquisition.

Public Edifices. Most of the streets of Cordova are narrow and crooked, and the town in general is heavy. There are some squares in it, one of which is remarkable for its spaciousness, for the regularity of the houses, and for the porticoes all round it. The private houses have a pleasant appearance enough, and to some of them there are fine gardens planted with orange, citron, and other fruit trees, and embellished with overflowing fountains. Nevertheless there are very few edifices at Cordova that deserve particular attention.

The Episcopal Palace is a large building, the staircase of which, made of marble, is noble, though spoiled by ornaments in a bad taste. It contains a fine collection of the paintings of the Spanish school, of Cano, Cespedes, Carrena, and Murillo.

rillo. In one of the halls there is a long series of portraits of the bishops of Cordova. This palace has a spacious garden and a little wood of orange trees, together with the remains of a palace of the Moorish kings; they give but a poor idea of it. It is now occupied by the inquisition.

The Royal Palace is situated at one of the extremities of the town; it is very large, tolerably handsome, and surrounded with walls: it might be taken for a citadel separated from the town. It has fine stables, where a great number of horses are usually kept for the king's use, and a riding-house for exercising. The finest stud of Andalusia is to be seen here, which in 1792 showed six hundred cattle of all ages, among which there were twenty stallions.

The Church of the Martyrs, belonging to the Dominican convent, is an ancient good building. It contains several paintings of merit; among others, a St. Peter the Martyr, by Cespedes; the martyrdom of St. Assicles and of St. Victor, by Juan Luis Zambrano; the last is exquisite, and placed at the chief altar. In the sanctuary is the monument of the celebrated Ambrosio Moralez; it is of choice marble. In the refectory of this convent there is a very fine painting of the Lord's Supper, by Cespedes.

The College of St. Paul, belonging to the Dominicans, is one of the finest edifices in Cordova; the front, however, which is of marble, shows bad taste. The church contains several good pictures; among others an Apparition of St. Peter and of St. Paul, a Saint Rosa, a Thomas Aquinas, and a Bersheba. The cloister is fine; it is formed by two rows of porticos, one over the other, and supported by eighty marble columns; they are embellished with the paintings of Antonio del Castillo and Francisco Zurbaran. The staircase is superb; it is of marble: there are some pictures by Castillo upon it. The library contains many select books, and a large picture by Luke Jordans, representing the action of Curtius throwing himself into the gulph to save Rome.

The Church of the Capuchins has a picture of the greatest beauty,

beauty, by Joseph Ribera; it is a repose of the Holy Virgin in the flight into Egypt.

The Church of Saint Francis is also ornamented with paintings of great merit, particularly a St. John of the greatest beauty, by Alphonso Cano; a St. Peter of Alcantara, by Pedro de Mena. The chapel of Los Canetes has some fine paintings in fresco, by Juan d'Alfaro. The cloister of this convent contains several good pictures by the last mentioned painter.

The Cathedral is the most remarkable edifice at Cordova, and a magnificent monument, unique in its kind. It is an old mosque that retains its original name, being called Mezquita. It was built (according to the Arab Schanah, mentioned by Herbelot) in the year 170 of the Hegira, by king Abderame. It stands on the site of the ancient cathedral said to have been built by the Goths, and where there was, in the time of the Romans, a temple of Janus. This assertion is founded on several inscriptions on the side of the cloister: and it is even thought that the ruins of that temple furnished the Moors with a great part of the materials used in the building of their mosque, particularly the numerous columns with which it was ornamented. This mosque was converted into a church after the conquest of Cordova by the king of Castile, and consecrated by Raimond archbishop of Toledo. It is an insulated edifice of immense size, situated at the opening of four large handsome streets where it is easily seen, and to advantage. It is five hundred and thirty four feet long and three hundred and eighty seven feet and a half wide. The walls are built of beautiful stones three feet and a half long and one foot nine inches wide, and are six feet ten inches thick; their elevation is unequal, on account of the inequality of the ground, which is thirty feet on three sides and almost forty two on that to the south: the consequence of which is that, on the side last mentioned, we go up more than thirty steps into the church, and on the opposite side we go down only thirteen or fourteen. The facing to the north

north is full of ornaments in stucco, very exquisitely wrought: there are six columns before the door, four feet nine inches high, of a jasper of rare beauty: the Spaniards pretend that they are of the finest turquoise. A large handsome tower rises on one side; it is fifty one feet eight inches wide on each face; the windows of it, fourteen in number, are ornamented with columns of black and red marble: it is terminated by small arches in the shape of festoons, supported by similar columns, which, with those of the windows, make a hundred in number. There is a space of one hundred and eighty feet ten inches, which runs the whole length of the building, before the entrance of the temple; here it was that the Musulmans made their ablutions and left their slippers. It is surrounded on three sides with a handsome portico supported by seventy two columns. The area formed by it is planted with citron, orange, cypress, palm, and various other trees, and there are three fountains continually spouting water. This space is, in a manner, a garden in the air. It rests upon an immense reservoir, the vault of which is supported by columns. However agreeable this place may be, we lament that it should hurt the view of the structure of the church, which is obstructed on that side. This cathedral has seventeen doors covered with bronze plates curiously wrought: twelve of the doors are condemned, five only being used.

Nineteen aisles, about three hundred and fifty feet long and near fourteen broad, run from south to north, and open at once into the area just described: there are nineteen other smaller aisles, if they may be so called, crossing the breadth of the sanctuary from east to west: they are divided by rows of columns to the number of eight hundred and fifty, which added to those of the portico and tower make in the whole one thousand and eighteen. Several of the columns, as already said, are of a jasper resembling turquoise, the rest are of the finest marble, red, yellow, and white and red mixed: they are of unequal height, from seven to eleven feet two or three inches, and are most of them surmounted with Corinthian

capitals. Upon one of them a crucifix is shown, and said to have been carved by a Christian, when a slave among the Moors, who for want of instruments of any kind made use of his nails.

The coup-d'œil of all these aisles is astonishing. They are not vaulted, but have ceilings made of very valuable, fragrant woods, full of ornaments and paintings. Leaden pipes are placed over the ceilings at the separation of every aisle; they are large enough to hold two men. The place in which the Moors kept the book of the law is a chapel consecrated to the invocation of St. Peter: it is separated from the rest of the edifice by a square building with a great arch wrought in Mosaic; its walls are incrusted with fine marbles, and ornamented with foliage about thirteen feet high; twelve columns placed on the shafts of twelve others, support the entablature. Above is a handsome dome, also incrusted with marbles and ornamented with Mosaic. Another square building succeeds, which is likewise ornamented, but the marbles inlaid upon the walls are lower, and the colours of the Mosaic work are brighter. It has a cupola supported by eighty four columns of a fine marble, and eight windows with skylights in alabaster. This place leads to a magnificent octagon, the opening of which is formed by an arch covered with mosaic ornaments supported by four columns, two of white and red marble and two of green, with capitals finely carved and gilt. Both the diameter and the elevation of the octagon are thirteen feet. The walls of it are incrusted with white marble streaked with red, and it is ornamented with columns of choice marble which support a border or kind of cornice, on which rest arches in the Moorish taste, bearing the ceiling. This consists of a single piece of an exquisite white marble, rendered the more precious by being hollowed, in an extent of thirteen feet, into a vault nine feet in the concavity.

The shape of this church remained unaltered till the year 1528, when the chapter obtained the king's leave, in spite of the opposition made by the town of Cordova, to form it into a cross.

a cross. A great chapel was built nearly in the middle, making as it were a second church; it is very rich in marble and gilding, but the principal edifice was degraded; a great many columns were removed to form it. Though this chapel is composed of a body and choir, it does not appear so, being concealed by the multitude of columns about it.

The chief altar is fine. It has a double display of architecture, each with four columns of mixed marble of the composite order: between the columns there are four fine paintings by Anthony Palomino. There are are several chapels and altars which also have fine pictures; a St. Eulogus by Vincent Carducho; a St. Stephen by Juan Luis Zembrano. The chapel of the Sacrario, or of the communion, is ornamented with fine paintings in fresco, executed by Cæsar Arbasia. There are other pictures distributed in various parts of the church: a St. Pelagus at the moment of his death and martyrdom being announced to him, by Anthony del Castillo; a St. Barbe, by John de Peñalosa; an apparition of some martyrs, by Antonio Torrado; a noble annunciation by an old painter little known, Pierre de Cordova.

There are several altars worth seeing: particularly that of St. Agnes which is of very fine marble; it was done by Verdiguier, a French sculptor: and that of the conception, in mixed marbles, ornamented with statues of white marble, executed by Pierre de Mena. In St. Paul's chapel there is a very fine statue of that Saint, by Paul Cespedes.

The great cloister on the side of the church was also built by the Moors: on a door at one of the angles of it there is a great number of Gothic and Arabic characters intermixed.

The Moors had a great veneration for this mosque, which they came very far, even from Africa to visit; and persisted in the custom long after it was in the power of the Castilians and converted into a church.

The Arts. Besides the fine pictures distributed in the churches, some are to be found in the houses of individuals,

and we must not omit to mention those of Don Antonio Terrado, himself a distinguished painter and a native of Cordova, who is in possession of some very fine pieces of the Spanish school.

Spain is indebted to Cordova for some distinguished painters and celebrated sculptors; but the town possessed no establishments calculated to revive the taste for fine arts, in which the Cordovans formerly succeeded. The bishop, Don Antonio Cavalleros, has been taking steps to effect it; he has at his own expence established a school for drawing, where a number of young people without fortune are supported: in the year 1801 it was under the direction of Francisco Augustin a painter, Orosi a sculptor, and Ignatius Thomas an architect.

Commerce. Cordova was a considerable commercial town: it was so even under the Romans, from Strabo's report, and it was so likewise in later times. Trade was briskly carried on under the Moors, and for about two centuries more, under the Castilians. There were many celebrated manufactures of silk and gold lace, which are gone to decay, as in several other towns of Spain: at present Cordova can hardly reckon a few petty manufactories of ribbons and galoons, and one of hats. Gold and silver work has always been held in honour here, and is still carried on: there are a great many goldsmiths constantly employed on gold and silver articles, which are sent away to the fairs. Their storehouses are rich, but most of their work is massive, and not delicate or elegant.

Public Instruction, Sciences, and Literature. Cordova boasts that she has given to Rome several celebrated literary characters, whose writings did honour to the age in which they lived, and deserved to descend to us. It was the country of the orator Marcus Annæus Seneca; of the philosopher Lucius Annæus Seneca his son, whose works we have; of the orator Marcus Pontius Latro; of the poets Sextilius Hena, and Marcus Annæus Lucanus, known to us by the name of Lucan. Cicero mentions the poets of Cordova, but discovers a foreign

foreign turn in their expressions: sonum pingue et peregrinum.

Under the Moors Cordova produced men distinguished in the sciences as well as in poetry: it is enough to mention Aben-Zovar and Averroez, whose works are esteemed and translated into several languages. The former was very learned in pharmacy, surgery, and medicine; the latter was a great philosopher, poet, lawyer, physician, judge, and statesman. Spain was afterwards indebted to this town for the poet Luis de Gongora, who lived at the end of the sixteenth century: in the preceding century flourished the poet Juan de Mena, chiefly known for being the first who gave the dignity of heroic poetry to Castilian verse. This town had also the honour of giving birth to a poetess, Aischa, who was celebrated for her compositions, and frequently merited to be crowned by the academy of Cordova.

Among the artists, Cordova particularly prides itself on having produced Paul Cespedes, who was at once a poet, painter, architect, and sculptor, and successful in all those characters. The famous head of Seneca is his; he added it to the invaluable antique statue of that philosopher, and it is so well executed, so well proportioned and adapted, that it is impossible to look at it without admiration. We might mention some minor, yet good painters, such as Zambrano, who died in 1639; Castillo, who died in 1667, &c. and Antonio Torrado of the last century.

Cordova was also the country of the renowned and valiant Gonzales Fernandez de Cordova, one of the greatest generals of the fifteenth century, who deservedly acquired the surname of the Great Captain, and who, after being the instrument of the victories and successes of Ferdinand V, became the victim of his jealousy.

There is a great deal of luxury in this town among people of fortune, most of whom keep carriages; the entertainments both public and private are very magnificent; in these

these the nobility particularly distinguish themselves; they often meet, and their meetings are sometimes splendid feasts.

There is a tolerably good inn at Cordova facing the cathedral.

ENVIRONS OF CORDOVA.

Notre-Dame de la Fuen-Santa is a kind of hermitage out of the town, in a lively situation. There is an excellent painting of St. Sebastian in it, by Antonio del Castillo.

The bishop of Cordova's country-house is a mile and a half out of the town, on the banks of Guadalquivir: it has magnificent gardens, with beautiful long walks, well planted and stocked with a great variety of fruit trees, all sorts of shrubs, plants, and flowers. It has besides a large collection of exotic medicinal plants, and a labyrinth composed of fine orange trees. It is a delightful spot.

Soon after we leave Cordova, taking the Seville road, we come to the frontiers of these kingdoms.

THE KINGDOM OF SEVILLE.

The Road from Cordova to Seville, 21 leagues.

Cordova to	
Margonegro, (market-town, and post)	3 leagues.
La Carlota, (a village)	3
Ecija, (a town)	4
La Luisiana, (a village)	3
Carmona, (a town)	3
Seville, (a town)	5

On the confines of the kingdom of Seville we have a very fine view: the city of Cordova is seen majestically opening in the form of a crescent, on a gentle

a gentle declivity, extending to the banks of the Guadalquivir.

The road we now take was formerly almost impassable; it lay through a desert, without trees, culture, houses, or people; in some places covered with wild shrubs, in others quite bare, and intersected with barren hills; at once disagreeable, inconvenient, and dangerous. Such was the country the traveller had to go over till within three leagues of Ecija, without ever finding water to quench his thirst. For some time past, however, there has been an excellent road made; houses have been built at proper distances, villages established, and the lands, distributed to new settlers, are now well cultivated; trees have been raised, the face of the country is become lively and pleasant, and we travel over it not only very conveniently, but agreeably. Unhappily the same causes that brought on the decline of the settlement in the Sierra Morena, have undermined these establishments; they appear to have operated here already still more rapidly.

After travelling three leagues, we arrive at the venta (or market-town) of Mangonegro, which is the post; and three leagues farther at La Carlota, the chief place of the new settlement, a small but handsome village. In 1790 it contained only sixty settlers: it has an Alcade Major for the administration of justice. The parish church has a body and two ailes, with a front flanked with towers.

The

The soil is clayey and chalky; the fields begin to look handsome; successive plantations of olive-trees appear, and we see little country-houses, farms, and oil-mills. In this way we proceed to Ecija, four leagues from La Carlota.

Ecija is a small town, situated between two high hills, in a plain where there are two lofty mountains, on the western bank of the Xenil, over which there is a handsome stone bridge lately built. This is accounted the hottest place in Andalusia: it is the ancient Astigis, which took the name of Colonia Augusta Firma, after it became a Roman colony; it was then of much more importance; geographers gave it the third rank among the cities of Bœtica. It had public baths and a circus. In every part there are ruins of marble columns, statues, inscriptions, and other antiquities to be found. In after-times it became the see of a bishop, which was overturned by the Moors, and never after restored. The courts of law are held here: it has a corregidor, and an alcade major for the administration of justice, and a vicar-general and official of the archbishopric of Seville, to superintend the ecclesiastical jurisdiction. The amount of the population is about 20,000 persons. There are about 3746 houses in the town, most of which are ornamented, on the outside, with indifferent paintings. It has a large square with porticos all round, the effect of which is disagreeable, from the inequality of the arches.

Out

Out of the town there is a very fine promenade along the left bank of the river, consisting of four broad walks, planted with trees, and furnished with seats of free-stone. In going to it we pass four marble statues, standing on four distinct columns; one of them is of St. Paul, the others are Charles III, the infant Don Carlos, then prince of the Asturias, and the Princess his consort.

The land about Ecija is very fertile: it is said to yield four for ten*. It is rich, particularly in excellent pasturage, where multitudes of sheep, cows, horses, &c. are bred. Cotton is also cultivated here.

Three leagues from Ecija we come to Luisiana, a village of the new settlement. In 1791 there were two hundred and forty settlers in it; the habitations are beginning to fall into ruin. On leaving Luisiana, we may perceive, over the side of a parched hill, some houses of the town of Carmona, where after travelling three leagues we arrive, and enter by the Cordova gate.

Carmona is a small ancient town, which looks down over large plains. It was once inhabited by the Carmonenses of Cæsar, who gave them the title of municipal, after conquering Varro, the general of the troops of Pompey's party. Two of its gates, those of Seville and Cordova, are Roman struc-

* This is surely a mistake. The author may have written forty, which is but fourfold. *Tr.*

tures;

tures; the latter is a magnificent monument. The streets are tolerably handsome. If this town cannot boast of handsome buildings, it has some ridiculously ornamented. Of this number is the church steeple, a modern building, and gross imitation of the spire of Seville. The ecclesiastical jurisdiction is under the direction of a vicar-general and official of the archbishop of Seville. The soil is fertile, producing excellent corn, abundance of wine, and still more of oil: there are a hundred oil-mills, and yet that number is scarcely sufficient. We leave Carmona by the Seville gate, and travel five leagues almost constantly through vineyards and olive plantations, enclosed by large strong aloes, which form a base and ornament to them. In this manner the road runs to Seville, where we arrive, astonished to find a beautiful, rich, fertile country, almost uninhabited.

Seville, in Spanish Sevilla, and in Latin Hispalis, is a large, handsome city, one of the first of Spain, which is mentioned by Strabo, Pomponius Mela, Pliny, and Ptolemy, as being ancient even in their time. Its origin has been sought for in the remotest antiquity: its foundation has been attributed to Hercules, to Bacchus, to the Hebrews, the Chaldeans, and the Phenicians.

Seville has several times changed its sovereign and its form of government. It has sustained three sieges, the first and last of which immortalized the resolution and valour of the inhabitants, by a long

long and obstinate resistance, and by innumerable acts of heroism; the other was a disgrace to the town, and to those charged with its defence. It was subject to the Gothic kings; and partook, in 582, the rebellion of Ermenegild, son of king Leudivigild. The prince being vanquished in Merida, it received him within its walls, and protected him against the power and resentment of the king, whom it long resisted, and was besieged a whole year before it surrendered. In 711, on the invasion of the Moors, it opened its gates, at their very first approach, to those enemies of Spain and of the Christian name. Falling under them, it was occupied by the legions from Emessa. In 1027, it supported the rebellion of the Moor, who was the governor of it, in favour of the king of Cordova, whom it proclaimed king of Seville. Restored to the empire of the sovereigns of Cordova, it again raised the standard of rebellion in 1144, and chose itself a king, whose descendants united Cordova to their new dominions. Aben-hut, the last of those kings, being assassinated at Almeria, and Ferdinand II, king of Castile and Leon, having seized upon Cordova and Jaen in 1236, it threw off all authority, formed itself into a republic, and was governed by its own laws. But it experienced in its turn the power of a conqueror. Ferdinand II assembled his forces before Seville in the year 1247, and compelled it, though after the resistance of a year, to surrender on the 23d of November, 1248.

This

This is one of the most memorable sieges recorded in the annals of Spain, and from that period Seville has always made a part of the dominions of the kings of Castile.

Situation and extent. Seville is situated on a beautiful and extensive plain on the banks of the Guadalquivir. Its shape is circular, and its circumference is still the same as left by the Romans; the walls are handsome, high, and flanked with a hundred and sixty-six towers; they are not made of stone, there being none to be found in the neighbourhood of Seville, but of earth, or a kind of mortar, or cement, so well prepared, that it is at present as hard, and perhaps more solid than stone itself. The town has twelve gates: that of Triana is of Doric architecture, ornamented with columns and statues.

The town is badly laid out, the streets being narrow, crooked, and generally ill-paved: the houses are tolerably well built, and are 11,820 in number, including those of the suburbs. Many of the houses have large courts, surrounded by galleries on columns, with fountains in the middle: there are paintings in fresco on some of the walls. In summer the families live in the galleries, or courts, where they spread tents. There are a good many squares in Seville, the best of which are La Lonja, or the Exchange, which is large and handsome; the Hotel de Ville, in which there is a fountain finely executed; the Arsenal, situated at the entrance of the harbour, where stand the Custom-house and the Gold-house, in which the gold and silver coming from the Indies were deposited: here all the merchandize which comes up the Guadalquivir is landed. There are several fine suburbs, and a handsome promenade, called Alameda, having three walks planted with trees, and ornamented with seats and fountains.

Population. The population of this city was formerly very considerable.

considerable. We find that when it was taken in 1247, by Ferdinand II, more than 300,000 left it, and went to Grenada and into Africa. It is said to have contained, in the year 1526, nearly 300,000 inhabitants; and even that, in the seventeenth century, the silk manufactories alone employed 130,000 persons. Thus, the expulsion of the Moors began the depopulation of this city, and the decay of its manufactures completed it, for at the conclusion of the seventeenth century, it was found that the number of the inhabitants had further decreased a third in the space of twenty years. In short, from the loss of its commerce, which is removed to Cadiz, it has not at present above 96,000 inhabitants.

Clergy. This city is the see of an archbishop, of the greatest antiquity, and which long advanced pretensions to the primacy of all Spain. This prelate has an assistant bishop *in partibus infidelium.* His diocese contains one cathedral chapter at Seville, three collegiate chapters at Seville, Ossuna, and Xerez de la Frontera, and two hundred and thirty-four parishes. At Seville there are a metropolitan chapter, a collegiate chapter, twenty-six parish churches, four chapels of ease, sixty-eight convents of monks and nuns, forty-three colleges, charity houses, hospitals, oratories, and a tribunal of the inquisition. The collegiate chapter, which is in the church of the Salvador, has a prior and eight canons; that of the metropolitan is composed of eleven dignitaries, forty canons, twenty prebendaries, and twenty-one semi-prebendaries. The clergy of this cathedral are very numerous: besides the dignitaries, canons, &c. there are two sub-chanters, one master, and one under master of the ceremonies, two pointers of the choir, twelve chaplains called *de vara y palio*, four curates, and four confessors exclusively attached to the chapel del Sacrario, three chaplains, and one attendant for performing divine service in the chapel of Escalas, three chaplains and one attendant for the chapel of St. Peter, and thirty-six collegians of the college of St. Isidore, to serve as priests attendants, which make a total of a hundred and sixty-three persons, without reckoning the

the chapel of music, composed of one master, fourteen singers, nine instrumental performers, and four supernumeraries.

Two councils have been held in this city; the first in the year 621, in the time of the Goths; the last about the year 722, in the time of the Moors. The latter was composed of the bishops subject to Abderame, the Moorish king of Cordova: in this the Mingrelian heresy was condemned.

Civil and Military Administration. There is a royal audience court at Seville, and the intendant of the province of Andalusia, or of the kingdom of Seville, resides there: his office is commonly united with that of assistant. There is a corregidor, who is at the same time a justice of the police, assistant, and judge in civil causes; three lieutenants of the assistant, two for the town, and one for the faubourg of Triana; and a municipality composed of a certain number of regidors, or magistrates.

Public Establishments. A royal academy of medicine and natural philosophy, a royal academy of belles lettres, one of painting, a society of economy, a port captain, a minister of the marine, an auditor of the marine, two colleges for a certain number of young people, a school for drawing, one for navigation, a dock-yard, a mint, a cannon-foundery, a fine arsenal of artillery, and a house of correction and imprisonment, founded in the year 1724, by Toribio de Valasco, whence it took the name of Casa de los Toribios.

Public Instruction. Seville, under the Moors, had schools, academies, and libraries. It has at present three academies of modern institution: that of natural philosophy was established by Philip V; that of the belles lettres was patronized by Ferdinand VI, in 1752; that of painting owes its origin to a society of painters, about the year 1660; this establishment had almost fallen to nothing when Charles III took it under his protection, and established in it a school of the fine arts. The Board of Economy was instituted in 1773. The college of San Telmo is designed for the education of boys intended for the sea; the number admitted was a hundred and fifty, which

which Charles III extended, in 1786, to two hundred. That monarch, at the same time, gave encouragements, and added several masters: arithmetic, geometry, mathematics, navigation, marine artillery, commerce, drawing, and the French and English languages, are taught here. There is another college, belonging to the chapter of the metropolitan church, under the title of St. Isidore, where thirty-six boys are brought up, and taught Latin and chanting; it is under the direction of a rector and a vice-rector.

Public Edifices. There are some public edifices at Seville that deserve the curiosity of travellers.

The Tower of Gold is only remarkable for being a work of the Romans. The building of it is attributed to Julius Cæsar: it is an octagon, and divided into three bodies.

The Hotel de Ville is a monument of antiquity, tolerably handsome: it is ornamented on the outside with a great number of columns, pilastres, statues, and other decorations in sculpture.

The Tobacco manufactory is a very fine building, remarkable for its size, for the choice of the materials employed in building it, for the neatness of its architecture, and the taste in its decorations: it is four hundred and thirty nine feet long, and two hundred and eighty six broad*. This building is surrounded by a ditch, and contains twenty eight courts; it was finished in 1770. It is said to have cost 37,000,000 of reals, or 385,416*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* sterling.

Pilate's House, so called by the people, is a private house belonging to the dukes of Medina Celi. It was built about the year 1520: its principal court is very fine; it has a piazza all around it supported by marble columns, with a handsome fountain in the middle, and a marble statue at each corner. The fountain, supported by four dolphins, has a bust of Janus

* Mr. Townsend, in the account of his travels in Spain, published at London in 1791, is mistaken in stating this building to be 2600 feet long, and 420 broad.

placed

placed over the great cistern. The statues are; a Muse, a very tall Ceres, and two Pallases larger than life: they are believed to have been brought from Naples, and to have been the work of a Greek sculptor. The court is also embellished with twenty four antique heads, some very fine. Two galleries in the garden contain a large collection of antique sculptures: one of them is full of heads, sepulchral urns, fragments of antique statues, and two statues of consuls: the other contains the helmet of a statue of Alexander, extremely well done, a Ceres, a Marcus Aurelius very finely executed, and a great number of columns of different marble, some of antique green, and six with Corinthian capitals, of excellent workmanship.

La Lonja, or the Exchange for the Merchants, is a building of the Tuscan order, square, insulated, well situated on a large handsome spot of ground, and surrounded by little marble columns connected by iron chains, which go from one to the other, forming a kind of enclosure. It is raised on steps: and measures one hundred and seventy two feet on each of its four fronts, which are much alike, each front has three doors. It has two floors, one of which is as it were a distinct body ornamented with pilastres of free-stone, terminating with a balustrade and some decorations in the shape of obelisks. The court is spacious, and surrounded with piazzas, and a range of balconies over them; the piazzas have Doric, and the balconies Ionic columns. The commerce of Seville having greatly declined, this building has in a manner been deserted: for some years it has served as a repository for a collection of charts, plans, manuscripts, and titles relative to the New World, which had been dispersed among the archives of Simancas, of the audience court, and of the supreme council.

The Alcazar is the ancient palace of the Moorish kings, which was repaired and enlarged in succeeding times. The construction is Moorish, and it is built with studied magnificence, with marble of different kinds; water is conducted by pipes into almost all the apartments. It has a large court planted with orange and citron trees, and beautiful gardens,

dens, in which there are a great many fountains, more or less ornamented, and a superb forest of orange trees. The bathing room of the Moorish kings is still to be seen. The chamber called the ambassadors' is thirty feet eight inches square; the light is admitted into it through a handsome cupola, and it is full of decorations in stucco and marble very curiously wrought, some of which are gilt. There are several Arabic inscriptions, and a collection of valuable antiquities: inscriptions of the ancient Ilipa, of the ancient Basilippo, of the ancient Italica, and marble statues, of which some are colossal. The principal court is paved with marble, and surrounded with piazzas and balconies, supported by one hundred and four columns of the Corinthian order in couples, which are also of marble: the arches are full of Arabic ornaments.

The church of the Salvador is an ancient mosque, built according to the Moorish taste, with arcades, supported by pillars forming several porticos.

The Metropolitan Church is a large, noble edifice of the Gothic kind, which was built in the fifteenth century at the expence of the chapter; it is two hundred and sixty two feet long. The interior has two aisles on each side of the body; the breadth of the body is forty one feet nine inches, and its height one hundred and thirteen feet seven inches; and each of the four aisles is twenty feet six inches broad and eighty six feet one inch high. The vaulted roofs are supported by thirty two pillars nearly thirteen feet in circumference. It has ninety windows, the glass of which is covered with fine paintings, stained, about the middle of the sixteenth century, by Arnaud of Flanders: they cost 90,000 ducats. The choir is fifty one feet eight inches long and thirty four feet five inches broad; it is ornamented with marble; the chief altar is placed on a pedestal of black stone, and reaches to the arched ceiling: it has four orders of architecture each of six pilasters, with forty four niches, in which there are figures carved in relief; it is of Spanish cedar: it has a tabernacle of silver surmounted with a figured plate of the same metal.

In a little vestry on one side there are four ancient pictures and a silver urn set with jewels, which belonged to king Alphonso the Wise. The great vestry is full of bass-reliefs and ornaments of every kind, in sculpture, carving, and engraving; it contains a great many paintings, and rich ornaments for divine service; an immense number of shrines and relic-boxes in gold and silver; and innumerable chalices, crosses, chandeliers, basins and ewers of gold and silver. This treasure will be mentioned more particularly.

The chapel del Sacrario forms in a manner a separate church, having its own clergy. Its architecture is good, partly Ionic, partly Doric. It is full of modern ornaments in sculpture, marble, and bronze; but they are distributed without grace, and disfigure its noble architecture. This chapel contains several good pictures, a St Gregory saying mass, a resurrection of our Lord, and the four evangelists; the last are very fine.

The chapel of the Consolation has many pieces of sculpture very well executed.

The chapel of Nuestra señora la Antigua is very magnificent; the walls and arched ceilings are covered with good paintings in fresco by Martinez and Rovira. One of its side doors has two superb marble columns of antique green. The chief altar is of very fine marble; it has twelve columns the ornaments of which are in bronze, and various statues by Pedro Cornejo. This chapel is lighted by forty eight silver lamps; it contains some fine pictures, and two marble monuments, one of which is Don Pedro Hurtado de Mendoza's, who died in 1502, and the other Don Luis Salcedo's, who died in 1741; they were both archbishops of Seville. The first mentioned of these monuments excels the other in the fine touches of the chissel, the delicacy of execution, and the beauty of the whole.

The chapel of the Kings forms nearly a square, being fifty feet one way, and less the other: it is very rich in statues and sculptures of various other kinds. The monument of Alphonso

Alphonso X and Alphonso the Wise, that of queen Beatrice, and those of several princes and princesses of the royal family are to be seen here; and here is preserved the body of the king St. Fernando in a silver shrine, with four inscriptions in four languages, Latin, Castilian, Arabic, and Hebrew.

Some other chapels of the metropolitan church contain good pictures. In the chapel of the Visitation, there are two superb paintings by Murillo, with the baptism of Jesus, and an infant Jesus surrounded by angels, by Pedro Villegas. In that of the Nativity we have a nativity of Jesus Christ, by Luis de Vargas; and a St. Ildefonso receiving the chasuble from the hands of the Virgin, by Juan Valdez; and in the chapel of St. Francis, a St. Francis by Herrera; this is esteemed a chef-d'œuvre. In an adjacent chapel there is a St. James on horseback striking the Moors to the ground, by Paul de las Ruelas; and in the chapel of St. Ermenegild a fine picture of that Saint, by Juan Martinez. In the two last chapels there are monuments of two archbishops of Seville.

The chapter hall of the metropolitan church merits attention; we go into it from the chapel called del Mariscal. The entrance is through a square room, the walls of which are covered with marble baso-relievos, separated by pilasters of the Ionic order: eight statues, about four feet high, which are likewise of marble, representing the virtues, are distributed among the pilasters. The hall is large, majestic, and of an eliptical form, forty nine feet and a half long, and twenty nine feet three inches broad. The walls up to the cornice are covered with crimson velvet hangings, enriched with gold lace. Sixteen columns on their pedestals rise above the cornice; they stand against an equal number of pilasters, with sixteen marble bass-reliefs. There are likewise some paintings above mediocrity, which are thought to be by Paul de Cespedes, a prebendary of this church.

The Treasure-room of the Metropolitan church of Seville is very rich, and there are several articles in it which deserve

particular attention. It contains the famous tables which Alphonso the Wise gave to this church: they are each about three feet and a half high, and one foot nine inches broad; they are of silver gilt without, and of gold within, chased, and studded with jewels. There is likewise a great silver key partly gilt, on the wards of which is written: *Dios abrira, rey entrara.* The part below the ring is chased, and set off with galleys, ships, lions, and castles: they pretend that it is the key which was presented by the Moors to St. Fernando, when they surrendered the city of Seville to him. They likewise show a great bronze chandelier which is used at prayers in the holy week: it is full of columns, cariatides, statues, and other ornaments in relief tolerably well executed. We are told that it was made in 1554. Here also is preserved the custodia, that is, the tabernacle in which they place the ostensoir to expose the host to view and to carry it in the procession on the festival of the Saint Sacrament. It forms four bodies, each having twenty four columns, some fluted and others ornamented with baso-relievo. A great number of little figures are placed about on all sides. This tabernacle is of silver; it weighs five hundred and ten marks, and cost 25,441 ducats, six reals, and twenty five maravedis, or 2915*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* sterling.

The tower of the Giralda, adjacent to the cathedral, was built at two different periods of time. First by the famous Arab Geber, a native of Seville, by whom it was raised one hundred and seventy two feet high: it was at that time terminated by a square turret of brick variously coloured and varnished, on which was fixed an iron pillar bearing four globes of iron gilt. One of those globes was of such a size, that according to the chronicle of the reign of St. Fernando, it was necessary to widen the gate of the city to let it in. This turret was pulled down in 1568, and the tower was raised eighty six feet higher: its present elevation is two hundred and fifty eight feet. It is square, forty three feet each way; the walls of it are seven feet and an inch thick:

it

it is built with square stones to the height of three feet and a half, then continued with large bricks as high as sixty-nine feet; here begins several rows of windows, each with a number of ornaments, and three columns of white and mixt marble. It terminates in a little cupola, on which there is an allegorical statue of Faith in bronze, which, with its decorations, weighs thirty-four hundred weight: it is by Bartolomé Morel. The staircase of it is spiral: it is all the way up sufficiently wide and easy to suffer two men on horseback to ride up abreast. This tower has a governor, called alcayde, appointed by the archbishop.

Several other churches and convents contain very fine paintings. The churches of Santa Maria la Blanca, and San Francisco, the Priests' hospital, the convents of La Merci, the Augustins and Capuchins, have a great number of admirable works by Murillo, each of which deserves a particular description. Over the principal altar of St. Isidore there is a large painting of the saint, which might pass for a chef-d'œuvre of Paul de las Roelas. In the church of St. John de la Palma there is a fine Christ on the cross, with the Holy Virgin and St. John at the foot of it. In that of Saint Croix there is a superb painting, fifteen feet four inches high, of the Descent from the Cross, by Campana, which is accounted one of the finest paintings of Seville: it has great expression, and is wonderfully like life.

These are not the only fine paintings in Seville; there are large collections in private houses. There are some remarkable ones at the Archiepiscopal Palace, at the Marquis de Loreto's, at Count Aguila's, and at Don Francisco de Bruna's: the last contains a series of paintings by the best masters of the Seville school; and the Count Aguila's a very rich collection of drawings, engravings, and sculptures of different schools.

To the pictures of Count Aguila and Don Francisco de Bruna may be added valuable collections of other kinds. The former possesses a series of stones and coins relative to the Roman colonies

colonies in Spain, and a library in which there are some rare manuscripts. The latter has collected in a gallery a great number of antique busts, pedestals, Roman and Arabic inscriptions, medals, and cameos, and added a fine library, and a cabinet of natural history.

Besides these libraries there are several others in Seville both private and public. The public ones are at the archiepiscopal palace and at the metropolitan church. The first of these, which is handsome enough, was founded by the last archbishop, who died about the year 1795. The other was begun by a gift of 20,000 volumes from Ferdinand the son of Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the new world: it has been augmented from time to time; the room contains a series of portraits of the archbishops of Seville, some fine pictures, &c.

Arts. Seville was one of the first places in Spain where the arts were cultivated with success at the period of their revival. A particular school was formed there which boasts to have produced famous artists, and justly in enumerating among its painters, Zurbaran, Polanco, Fernandez, Velasquez, Herrera, Cano, Hernandez, Martinez, and Roldan. Painting and sculpture were carried to an eminent degree of superiority; the churches are full of excellent works which are the fruit of it. The two collections of pictures and sculpture to be seen at the Count Aguila's and Don Francisco de Bruna's, contain valuable pieces, which do honour to the age and to the town that produced them. These arts declined in the last century, and have never been able to look up: let us hope that the establishment of the new Academy of Painting, by awakening fresh zeal and emulation, will give them new life and splendor.

Commerce. Seville was for a long time the centre of the commerce and wealth of Spain. It was the only place that traded with Spanish America; it received the gold and silver brought from the colonies to the mother country, and was the place where the fleets and galeons came; but the proximity of Cadiz did it an irreparable injury, by attracting all its commerce:

merce: Seville is now only a body without a soul; there is scarcely any trade carried on there at present, yet the navigation is easy, and vessels sail up the Guadalquivir to the very town.

Manufactures. In its fortunate days Seville had many splendid manufactures; it wove silks of every kind, gold and silver tissues, linens, and cottons. A memoir presented in 1601, by the seventeen companies of arts and trades of this city, gives us an idea of the brilliant state of those manufactures: the amount of the silk looms is there stated to be 16,000, and the persons of both sexes employed at them, 130,000. These manufactures had greatly declined even in the last century. We learn from Francisco Martinez de Mata, in his Discursos, published in 1659, according to a memoir presented to the king by an alcade of the silk manufactures of Seville, that there were no more, at that time, than sixty-five looms, that a great number of persons having no work had quitted the town, that the population had decreased a third, and that many houses were uninhabited, shut up, and going to ruin. The silk manufactures begun to look up again in the eighteenth century, but they are very far below the brilliant state they formerly displayed: in 1779 there were 2318 silk looms in Seville, including those for stockings, slight stuffs, and ribbons.

This city has still an earthenware manufactory, a cannon foundery worked on the king's account, and a manufactory of tobacco. The last, which is the only one in Spain, and worked for the king, is very considerable, and gives an immense return: it daily employs 1404 persons, viz. 53 superintendants, directors, &c. 51 under-directors, and 1300 workmen. It contains 202 mills which are put in motion by 113 horses or mules; 48 are distinct and go by themselves, 154 are set to work by twenty-nine machines, of which some set two mills going at once, others four, and others six.

Celebrated Men. Seville has produced some men of genius who have distinguished themselves in the sciences and literature.

ture. Under the Goths it gave birth to Isidore, a man as virtuous as learned, who was both a good theologian and an exact historian; he lived in the seventh century, and was for his virtues placed in the number of saints. Under the Arabs it produced Mahomed Geber, celebrated for his knowledge in astronomy; and Azeiat, who left some writings in geography. To these may be added Alphonso de Santa Cruz, who distinguished himself by his mathematical knowledge and writings; Garcias de Matamoros, who left behind him three learned works, viz. *De Academiis et doctis viris Hispaniæ*, *De Ratione dicendi*, and *De Methodo concinnandi;* Juan de la Cueva, an elegant poet; and Ferdinand Herrera, an agreeable poet. Besides these Seville boasts of three females who did honour to their age and country, namely: the Moor Safia, famous for her verses; Maria Alphaisali, who distinguished herself by the beauty of her poems, and who deserved to be called the Sappho of Spain; and in after times Feliciana Henriquez de Guzman, who likewise cultivated poetry with success, and who was particularly distinguished for the sweetness and delicacy of her composition. We should here mention the excellent painters born in this town, such as Juan Luis de Vargas, who died in 1590; Francisco de Herrera the younger, who lived in the seventeenth century; and Paul de las Roelas, a pupil of Titian's who died in 1620. Bartolomé Murillo, who died in 1682, whose works are admired at Seville, and whose name alone is sufficient praise, is considered as a native of that town, but he was born at Pilas, which is not far from it.

Society—Climate—Produce. There are many carriages and a great deal of luxury in Seville: strangers are well received, the society is pleasing and agreeable; the people honest and civil; the populace rather inclined to mutiny. The higher orders are affable and engaging, the women lively and amiable. The weather here is almost always very fine, the climate mild, but rather warm than cool; the walks are pleasant and frequented; the country smiling and fertile. Food of every kind is abundant and savoury, the vegetables juicy, and the

fruits

fruits excellent: it is in every respect replete with charms for a stranger, and the Spanish proverb has some reason for saying, *Quien no ha visto Sevilla, no ha visto maravilla:* "Who has not seen Seville has not seen a wonder."

Inns. It may be well imagined that such a town is furnished with several inns; among them we find three tolerably good, two of which are kept by Italians.

ENVIRONS OF SEVILLE.

The Canos de Carmona are a Roman aqueduct, in which the water runs partly uncovered; it rests on 410 arches, and terminates at the gates of Seville, where it pours the water into a large bason, near the Carmona gate: the water is then distributed to the Alcazar and other parts of the town.

Buena Vista is a convent of the Jeronymites, about a mile from Seville, out of the Macarena gate. The church of this monastery is something of the Gothic kind; on the chief altar there are some good ancient sculptures; a statue of St. Jerome kneeling and holding a crucifix, deserves particular attention. It is of terracotta, and as large as life; it is compared to the finest pieces, but it is in a bad place to judge of its merit: it was done by Pedro Torregiani. There is a very fine picture of the Conception, by Murillo. There are some good pictures also in the vestry and in the cloister, by Juan de Valdez, and Juan Espinal; those of the latter relate to the life of St. Jerome. This monastery is very sweetly situated, in the middle

middle of a fine country, having an extensive prospect along the banks of the Guadalquivir; it has very fine gardens, in which there are orange and citron trees, cedars, myrtles, and a variety of fruit-trees. The cloister is ornamented with Doric half columns in the first row, and with the Ionic order in the second.

The Faubourg de Triana is separated from Seville by the Guadalquivir, which is crossed over a bridge of boats forming the communication. It runs along the side of the river; it has a cheerful lively appearance, full of inhabitants, and has a fine walk. There is an ancient fort of the Moors, where the tribunal of the inquisition holds its sittings. The parish church is very large, spacious, and of Gothic architecture: it is said to have been built in the reign of Alphonso the Wise; the chief altar is adorned with some fine pictures by Pedro de Campana.

Nuestra señora de las cuevas is a Carthusian monastery, at a short distance from Triana, on the road to the ancient Italica. The church is demi-gothic: it contains four handsome monuments, two near the chief altar, and two in the pantheon; these are of the family of Henriques, all of various choice marble, and finely executed. The walls of the body are ornamented with four large pictures relative to parts of the Holy Virgin's life; they are by Luis Paschal Gandin, a Carthusian of this house. The choir for the people has an altar, where there are

are two good pictures, the one by Alphonso Cano, the other by Francisco Zurbaran, and a fine Christ in sculpture, by Juan Martinez. In the vestry the attention is riveted by three exquisite paintings relating to the life of St. Bruno ; one of them is particularly striking from the beauty of the situations, the force of the expression, and the justness of the light and shade : they are by Francisco Zurbaran. There are such a number of good pictures in the other parts of this monastery that it would take up too much time to describe them. The library contains a rich collection of manuscripts, some of which are interesting, and others extremely valuable. Among them we find the Chronicle of St. Isidore, with Luke de Frey's continuation in Castilian ; the Chronicle of the reign of Henry IV, by Diego Enriquez ; the famous Chronicle of the Kings of Spain, by Archbishop Don Rodrigo ; a Livy, in Castilian ; a History of the Wars between Hannibal and Scipio, in Castilian ; and a manuscript by King Alphonso XI, who was fond of hunting and sporting. This is a most curious work : it is full of paintings, well done, and in good preservation, representing the different hunting and shooting dresses of that prince and his courtiers, and the instruments, machines, arms, and all the other articles necessary for sporting in general, and for each kind in particular.

Santiponce, the ancient Italica, is a village on the right bank of the Guadalquivir, at the distance of

of a league from Seville, and about two miles from the Carthusian monastery of which we have been speaking. It has a convent of Jeronymites, called St. Isidro-del-Campo, in a delightful situation, on the banks of the river, and in a beautiful, rich, and fertile plain. At the entrance of the convent there is a fine fragment of an antique statue, larger than life. The church is Gothic: the sanctuary contains two beautiful marble monuments, the one of Alphonso Perez de Guzman, renowned for the noble sacrifice he made of his son during the siege of Tarifa, by the Moors; the other of Maria Coronel, his wife. The chief altar has two orders of architecture, with two beautiful baso relievos and several fine statues, by Juan Martinez. That of St. Jerome is the best.

On this spot stood the ancient Italica, which was first a municipal town, and afterwards a Roman colony: it is distinguished for having been the country of the emperors Trajan, Adrian, and Theodosius, and of the poet Silius Italicus. It was destroyed before the sixth century of the Christian era, and believed to have been rebuilt by Leudivigild, a Gothic prince, who reigned from the year 568 to 586. It was overturned by the Moors in the eighth century, never more rose from its ruins, and was totally forgotten. The inhabitants of an adjacent place, called Santaponce, built up a few houses on the spot in the year 1600, and removing thither, gave it the name of the place

place they had quitted. At present the inhabitants are reckoned to be about two hundred and forty.

Mosaic pavements have been found here, and many Roman inscriptions, sepulchral stones, and coins, an account of which was published by P. Henrique Florez; and every where around remains of ancient walls, baths, and aqueducts, are still to be seen. There are also the ruins of an amphitheatre in a state of preservation, the principal entrance, vaults, galleries, and seats of which are still discoverable.

The country around this village is fine, cheerful, always green, abounding in woods, olive, orange, and citron trees, watered by the Guadalquivir, the ancient Bœtia.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ROAD FROM SEVILLE TO CADIZ.

The road from Madrid to Cadiz* does not pass through Seville; it breaks off at Carmona, whence a particular road branches to this city: a new and excellent road goes from Seville and meets the other, that leads directly from Carmona to Cadiz; this meeting is effected at two leagues from Seville, above Alcala de Guadayra. The distance from Seville to Cadiz is then reckoned twenty-one leagues.

* See road from Madrid and Aranguez to Cordova, to Seville, and to Cadiz.

The

The Road from Carmona to Cadiz, 26 leagues.

Carmona to		
Alcala de Guadayra, (a small town)	5	leagues.
Utrera, (a town)	15	
Xeres de la Frontera, (a town)		
Isle de Leon,	4	
Cadiz, (a city	2	

A fine road, of five leagues, leads from the town of Carmona to Alcala de Guadayra; it runs partly through vineyards and olive plantations, and partly over lands cultivated in different ways, of a cheerful and handsome appearance, having Seville at a distance on one side. Alcala de Guadayra, so named from the river on the border of which it stands, commands a country made fertile by the waters of the Guadayra, which are there distributed by means of canals. There is a great quantity of corn reaped here; and the olive plants are in great abundance; the olives are the largest in Europe, and the best for pickling. The inhabitants of Alcala employ themselves a great deal in making bread; they daily bake upwards of a thousand *fanegas*, or about twelve hundred weight of flour. The bread is very good and white; it is carried to Seville, where it is sold. For the maintenance of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction, a vicar-general and official of the archbishop of Seville's resides at Alcala.

Going from this town to Xerez de la Frontera, we pass through Utrera, a little town, containing a population of nine thousand people: it is a pretty

place

place. It has two parish churches and eight convents, and is the abode of a vicar-general and official of the metropolitan of Seville, for spiritual affairs. St. James's church is a gothic building; the vaulted ceilings are supported by eight pillars in the shape of palm-trees, which, raising and entwining their palms, divide it into a body and two aisles. St. Mary's is also gothic: it has a tower in front, the form of which is not inelegant, and the ornaments are pleasing.

The road continues through fine rich countries, becoming more and more beautiful and pleasant: for three miles before we come to Xerez, it has on both sides benches, pallisades, and trellises of painted wood. It is planted with palm, orange, and other valuable trees, which grow together only in hot countries: it is a continued walk, resembling a gallery, to which the proprietor had chosen to give a rural appearance. The fields all around look like charming gardens; the traveller thinks himself in an enchanted spot, and thus arrives at Xerez.

Xerez de la Frontera is a pleasant town, situated in a very rich country, and on the banks of the Guadalette. With some it passes for the Asta Regia, while others think, perhaps with more probability, that it was built on the ruins of that town. There is a place near Xerez still called Mesa de Asta, where it is supposed the ancient town was situated. The interior of Xerez corresponds with the

the beauty of its exterior: the town is large, well peopled, pleasant, and cheerful. The streets are wide, clean, well kept, and paved with care; we may even say with studied elegance. It is surrounded with walls; has a large square, and a handsome Hotel de Ville. Its population is reckoned at 20,000 inhabitants, but seems to be much greater. Xerez has a collegiate chapter composed of six canons, and six prebendaries; it is the residence of a vicar-general and official of the archbishop of Seville for the management of ecclesiastical affairs, and the chief place for the administration of justice: it has a penal judge, an alcade major, and a board of public economy. There is a Carthusian monastery in the town, in a charming situation, a truly delightful place. The edifice is noble and large; the face of the church is ornamented with statues, which are attributed to Alphonso Cano. The interior contains some good paintings, among others, four large pictures representing the Incarnation, Nativity, Circumcision, and the Adoration of the Wise Men. There are two angels, extremely beautiful, on the two doors leading to the vestibule of the *sacrario*, or vestry; and in the vestibule various pictures relative to the Carthusian order, all painted by Francisco Zurbaran: the last are esteemed his master-pieces. Opposite the chief altar stands the monument of Alvaro Oberto de Valete, a Genoese nobleman, who had settled at Xerez, and was the founder of this monastery. His

His statue is of bronze, as large as life, his head uncovered, in the attitude of drawing his sword, with a helmet, shield, and escutcheon at his feet. The monks' stalls are ornamented with bass-reliefs, of which there is a remarkable one on the door opening from this choir into that for the people; it is a very beautiful piece, representing the Incarnation. The vestry is rich in paintings, by Jordan, Durero, Cano, Juan de Seville, Salvi, Zurbaran, and Valdez; some of them very fine. A St. Bruno, by Placido Constanzi, is particularly striking.

The gardens of the monastery are most beautiful: orange, lemon, and fruit trees of every kind, give them an admirable richness; kitchen gardens, orchards, groves, and parterres, follow one upon another, and it is impossible to quit this charming spot without reluctance. The monks were in the habit of daily distributing charity at their gate to poor people, but discovering that most of those who came to receive it were idle and lazy, and that there were even vagabonds sometimes among them, they changed a mode of charity so easily abused, and substituted two establishments more advantageous and useful to society. The one is for children, the other for old men: they receive and support thirty young people, whom they instruct in religion, morals, writing, arithmetic, and agriculture, on methodical principles: they clothe them simply, but uniformly and neatly. They keep them five years, inspiring them with a wonderful

spirit of order. They, in like manner, receive twelve old men, unable to earn a livelihood, whom they clothe and maintain, without putting them to any work.

Xerez has some calico manufactures, and a library, for which the public are indebted to the private munificence of the Marquis de Villapanez: he has opened it in his own house to travellers, men of literary taste, and studious persons. In this town stallions are kept for the propagation of the excellent and handsome breed of Andalusian horses. In the seventeenth century the mares here amounted to five thousand, and the number of the foals annually to about two thousand. The number of both is very much decreased.

The country about Xerez is very fertile and well cultivated. Besides all the kinds of fruit trees which every where abound, it grows vegetables, corn, and particularly a grape which produces an excellent wine, known all over Europe, called in England Sherry. There are English and French houses here, that trade principally in this wine: the quantity exported yearly is estimated at fifty thousand quintals.

At a little distance from the Carthusian convent we pass the Guadaletta, over a bridge of nine arches, built in the reign of Philip II. We then enter a plain, rendered for ever famous by the defeat of the Spanish army, commanded by the unfortunate Don Roderigo, the last of the Gothic kings

kings in Spain, who was the victim of an ambitious intrigue. The death of that monarch, the signal victory gained by the Moors, and its fatal consequences, put an end to the empire of the Goths in Spain, and gave rise to that of the Moors. The battle was fought on Nov. 11, 711. At the distance of four leagues from Xerez we arrive at the Isle of Leon, which we enter by crossing the canal that forms it, over the bridge of Zuazo. This bridge, built in the time of the Romans, and partly destroyed under the Moors, was repaired under Charles I. There are evident marks of the Roman construction.

The Isle of Leon is formed by a canal which surrounds it, and which is ten miles long, and twenty-four feet deep at high water; it admits the largest ships. This island was entirely deserted in the middle of the seventeenth century; there was scarcely a house upon it. At present the principal street of the town is two miles long, with shops of every kind on each side: it contains upwards of forty thousand inhabitants; every thing seems to be alive; there is a constant moving scene; provisions are abundant, and even the more delicate and rare are to be found here. The island has an alcade major for the administration of justice; a municipality composed of a certain number of regidors, and a manufacture of stained linen, in the manner of printed calico. The Hotel-de-Ville, in the

great square, is a handsome building; the school for marine cadets is kept here for the present; it is a new establishment, and when completed is to be removed to San-Carlos. The marquis D'Urena has, in his house, a chemical laboratory, a well chosen library, philosophical apparatus, and a pleasing collection of paintings.

San-Carlos is to the north of the Isle of Leon, not quite a mile from the arsenal; between them there is a junction of two canals. It is a new town at present building: the chief erections are at the expence of the crown, consisting of roomy barracks for the marine troops and cadets, places for their schools and exercises, houses for the captain-general, intendant, treasury, pavilions for some offices, a large hospital, and a parish church.

From the Isle of Leon to Cadiz, we go by a road running two leagues to the north-west of the island. It is handsome, firm, and very much frequented, always full of travellers and carriages. The prospect is sublime; the eye takes in at once the city of Cadiz, its harbour, bay, and an immense expanse of sea. As we proceed the view suddenly changes, and we find ourselves surrounded by agreeable and amusing objects: variegated parterres, gardens differently laid out bordering on the road, and handsome walks, announce our approach to the town; where coffee-houses in every quarter, and handsome buildings without number, present themselves;

selves; all is cheerful, and animated; every thing bears the marks of wealth and gaiety, announcing a rich and flourishing town.

CADIZ.

This city is of a middle size, situated on a tongue of land projecting into the ocean. It is supposed to have stood formerly on a different site, near the present, and to have been swallowed up by the sea: it is even said that, in very calm weather, and when the tide is low, the ruins of the old houses, and the remains of a temple dedicated to Hercules, may sometimes be discerned under the water. In fact, at the time of the earthquake which demolished Lisbon, Nov. 1, 1755, the sea, rising in an extraordinary manner, overflowed the country about Cadiz to a great extent, and left behind it wrecks which appear to have belonged to a temple, and which it was natural to conceive came from the ancient temple of Hercules. Various are the opinions respecting the foundation of Cadiz, but with no more probability in favour of one than of another, though it appears that it is to be attributed to the Phenicians. This town was honoured with the title of *Municipium* by the Romans.

Situation and Extent. The present city is nearly square: it is a place of commerce, and a fortified town, defended by good ramparts, regular bastions, and several out-works. It is inaccessible and almost unassailable towards the sea, the shore being very steep on the south; and to the north it is defended

fended by sand-banks, and sunken rocks. Commerce produces an immense population compared with the extent of the town: it is computed at 70,000 persons; houses are consequently scarce and dear; the inhabitants are extremely crowded, and as it were heaped over one another. The streets are neither wide nor narrow, but are convenient, well paved, kept very clean, and well lighted at night. The houses are simple, well built, and agreeable, having little projecting roofs, made of a kind of slate that comes from Genoa, which render the streets gloomier than they would otherwise be; but those projections serve to give shade in summer. It has several squares, among which that of St. Antonio is very handsome; it is finely paved, and kept very clean: it has stone posts all round the centre, connected by an iron chain passing from one to the other to keep carriages off.

The town has five gates, four of which open to the sea, and only one towards the land. It has two promenades: one round the ramparts, which has nothing to recommend it but the beauty of the prospect, and another called the Alameda, at the gates of the town, which runs by the sea on the side of the bay: this has three large, handsome walks, planted with elms and poplars; the trees, however, are affected by the vicinity of the sea: it is furnished with coffee-houses, and places to meet in, is pleasant, well lighted at night, and much frequented.

The Clergy. Cadiz is a bishop's see which was formerly at Asidonia, but removed to this city in the year 1264, in the reign of Alphonso the Wise, at which time the church of Santa-Cruz was erected into a cathedral. This bishopric is suffragan to the archbishopric of Seville; its diocese is of very little extent, it has only fifteen districts, which contain twenty eight parishes. The city has a cathedral chapter, several parish churches, and convents both of Monks and Nuns, five hospitals, one asylum, and a house of confinement for beggars. The chapter of the cathedral is composed of

six

six dignitaries, ten canons, four prebendaries, and eight demi-prebendaries.

Hospitals. Among the hospitals those of S. Juan de Dios and of the Carmelites receive sick patients, the former is for men and the latter for women; that of la Piedad is for widows. The other establishments of this kind are; the Foundling hospital, and the royal hospital for the marine troops. The asylum, or charity house, maintains about eight hundred persons old and young of both sexes, incurables, vagabonds, mad people, and likewise women of the town. These classes are disposed of in different wards, which are spacious and well aired. They are all lodged, fed, clothed according to the seasons, brought up to arts and trades, and instructed in religion. The boys are employed, according to the bent of their disposition and taste, in the manufacturing of silk, linen, cotton, and printed calicoes; the girls in spinning flax, silk, and cotton, in needle work and household business. The old are also made to work according to their abilities, and strength. This is an establishment of long standing, and count O'Reilly in 1785, when governor of Cadiz, improved it by giving it a form still more useful, but which degenerated after his resignation.

Government. Cadiz has a governor, a king's lieutenant, a major, two assistant majors, and a garrison; two alcades major, for the administration of justice; a college and schools of surgery; a military school, and schools for drawing and navigation, an observatory, and one of the most frequented harbours of Spain. The schools of surgery are under two directors and nine professors; they have a public library, and a botanic garden: a hundred young men designed for navy surgeons are here brought up by the government. This city is one of the three departments of the royal navy, and consequently has a captain general, major intendant, accomptant general, two treasurers, a post captain, a marine minister, two marine auditors, a naval school, an arsenal, and a dock-yard for men of war.

Public

Public Buildings. There are few public buildings at Cadiz worthy particular attention.

The present cathedral has a body and two aisles, separated by columns: it contains a great many pictures, most of them copies. The altar to the right of the choir on entering, has some good sculptures; among others, some angels, a Holy Trinity, and a crowning of the Holy Virgin. The new cathedral is not yet finished, though begun in the year 1722: the most curious marbles and ornaments of every kind are distributed about it with profusion; but the plan of it is defective and rudely conceived; consequently it never will be made a handsome building, notwithstanding the multiplicity and sumptuousness of the decorations with which it is encumbered. It is computed that it will cost 1,500,000, crowns.

The Asylum is a very handsome building with Doric columns: it has several courts, and presents a front of two hundred and sixty feet long by one hundred and fifty three broad. Round the principal court there is a gallery with sixteen columns of the Doric order.

The Church of the Capuchins has at the chief altar a fine painting of the Marriage of Saint Catherine, by Murillo. There is also a fine *ecce homo* by that painter, and some other fine pieces of his school.

The Church of the Oratory contains two fine pictures, a conception, and an Eternal Father; the former by Murillo, the latter by Clement de Torres. It has also a very fine statue as large as life; a St. Magdelene dying with an angel supporting her; the figures are full of expression; it is the work of a female, Luisa Roldan.

The Custom House, lately built, makes a handsome appearance, but has nothing remarkable in it.

Public Instruction. In a great commercial city, where the spirit of speculation and of trade is pre-eminent, the arts and sciences are rarely cultivated with zeal or success. The mercantile

mercantile taste prevails; the imagination and industry become subservient to it, and are injurious to talents of a different nature. Cadiz in modern times has produced no scholar, no man of letters, no artist worth mentioning: but it boasts of having in former days given to the Roman empire a Lucius Cornelius Balbus, an historian in the time of Augustus; Cornelius Balbus, his nephew; Canius, a poet; Lucius Junius Moderatus Columella, who wrote so well on agriculture. It is only within a short time that there have been any establishments for the cultivation of arts and sciences, and even those are confined to particular pursuits and individuals; such as the schools for the navy, fortification, surgery, and navigation. The school for drawing is well provided with every thing that is necessary; it has three hundred pupils, among whom prizes are annually distributed, and real advantages have already been derived from it. The observatory is situated in the highest part of the town; it is well furnished with apparatus, but nothing is known of the works of the astronomers who have been engaged to make their observations there.

There are, however, at Cadiz some lovers of the fine arts who have made collections, several of which are interesting. Don Joseph de Murcia has a series of fine paintings by different masters. Don Alphonso Ocruley is in possession of about two hundred pictures, almost all originals, by Paul Vermere, Rubens, Vandyke, Piombo, Murillo, Velasquez Cano, Ribalta, and the school of Brughel, &c. &c. with an interesting series of coins and intaglios, and a cabinet of natural history, the most valuable part of which consists in the productions of Mexico and Peru. The house of Don Josef Martinez contains more valuable and precious collections still: a great many sculptures of various kinds; a considerable collection of prints, a curious collection of the best editions of books of architecture, and of antiquity; of descriptions and engravings of the most celebrated galleries, and of a great number of monuments both ancient and modern: to crown the whole,

whole, a superb collection of the works of Titian, Leonardo da Vinci, Velasquez, Murillo, Jules, Ribera, Herrera, Zurbaran, Jordan, Trevisani, Rosa, Vaccaro, and many other painters of the Spanish school.

Manufactures. Cadiz never had any considerable manufactures, nor has it any at present; for that name can scarcely be given to some twenty looms for ribbons and silk net-work that are established there. Foreign commerce is every thing.

Commerce. The situation of the harbour of Cadiz is one of the most advantageous for commerce on a grand scale. It is open to the Atlantic, by which its communication is rendered easy with Portugal, England, Holland, the coasts of France on the ocean, and those of the North of Germany, but particularly with the New World; it is at the same time close to the Straits of Gibraltar and to the Mediterranean, communicating that way with the south and east of France, Italy, the Levant, and Africa; it has consequently become one of the most considerable, and celebrated commercial ports of Europe. Foreigners of all nations have factories, houses, and magazines here; ships from every part of the world are continually entering, and the bay is scarcely ever without five or six hundred vessels. There are about seven hundred and twenty commercial houses, exclusive of retail traders, most of them Spanish: of foreigners the principal are Irish, the others German, Flemish, Genoese, and some, but very few, English and Dutch: before the war of 1793, there were about fifty French houses, besides thirty-five retail dealers, and thirty milliners shops. About a thousand ships of different nations enter the ports annually. In the year 1776, the number amounted to nine hundred and forty-nine, of which two hundred and sixty five were French; and in the year 1791, there were a thousand and ten merchantmen entered, viz. English, a hundred and eighty; French, a hundred and sixteen; Portuguese, a hundred and four; Dutch, eighty; Genoese, six; Ragusians, twenty-four; Venetians, two; Swedish, twenty-five; Danish, forty-one; Russian, one; Hamburgh, one;

one; Imperial, one; Americans, ninety; Spanish, from Manilla one, from America a hundred and seventy-six; from the ports of Europe a hundred and sixty-two.

Several of these Spanish vessels belong immediately to Cadiz; and it has besides above a hundred privateers. This port carries on a direct trade with England and Holland: it receives from the English iron-ware, some cloths, and stock-fish; and from the Dutch, linens and spices. Its trade with France is more considerable: it imports wrought wool from St. Valery, Amiens, Havre, and Rouen; linens from Morlaix, St. Malo, and Nantes; pitch and tar from Bayonne, and sometimes lard and meal from that town and from Bourdeaux; and upwards of 500,000l. sterling worth of commodities from Marseilles, such as silks, gilt articles, iron-ware, &c. It exports oil, wine, fruit, and salt, which is obtained from the salt-pits at Puerto Real: the traffic in this last article alone amounts to upwards of 830,000l. sterling. One half of the Sherry wine is exported from Cadiz, and is about 25,000 quintals.

The principal, and truly useful and lucrative trade of Cadiz, is that carried on with the Spanish colonies. Formerly only the city of Seville could engage in it openly; but it was removed hither, in the year 1720, exclusive of all the other ports of Spain. From that time Cadiz alone sent the productions of Spain to the colonies; for it exported thither salt and the manufactures of the kingdom, and a great part of the merchandize which flowed in upon its markets from other countries, and in return received the productions of the colonies, as well as all the gold and silver, whether coined or in bullion, that came into Spain. This commerce was immense, and Cadiz soon became one of the most opulent cities of Europe. The exclusive privilege granted to this port was taken away about twenty-five years ago, and several other ports of Spain have been since allowed to share it equally, by which Cadiz has suffered considerably. However, it retains the greatest influence, and continues to hold the first rank; most of the galleons still unload here, and it sends out and receives the richest fleets.

fleets. In the year 1791, a hundred and seventeen Spanish ships from America entered this port, and a hundred and one cleared for those countries, viz.—

For Carthagena	5
Honduras	8
Vera Cruz	20
Monte Video	16
Lima	17
The West Indies	35

The amount of the national productions or merchandize exported from this port to America was,

	Reals.	*Sterling.*
In 1790, to the value of	102,000,000	£.1,062,500
In 1791, ———	115,000,000	1,190,625
In 1792, ———	270,000,000	2,812,500

It received from America, in 1792, imports to the value of 700,000,000 reals, or 7,295,833l. sterling: in the year 1791, it had received in gold and silver, coined and bullion, to the value of 25,788,175 piasters, or 5,359,203l. sterling. But in 1801, during the war waged by Spain and France against England, only twenty ships from America entered here, viz. one from the Havannah, one from Porto Bello, one from Lima, two from Carthagena, four from Monte Video, and eleven from Vera Cruz; and only fifty-nine cleared: three for Carthagena, five for Monte Video, nine for Guayra, and forty-two for Vera Cruz.

Cadiz is a very opulent city: there is a great deal of specie in it, which has a quick circulation. It is well supplied with every thing; there are all kinds of merchandize, and all sorts of viands; but it is a very expensive place. Luxury is carried to an excessive degree, if not to its greatest height: lodgings are exorbitant, and all the necessaries of life at an immoderate price; it is therefore difficult to live here; one must be rich, or have a lucrative profession or thriving business, to be able to exist. There is a very great inconvenience attending this town, of which luxury is not aware; it has no good soft water:

water: for common use it has only well-water, which is hard, brackish, and unwholesome; and rain-water, which falls in the inner courts of the houses, and is collected into cisterns, where it spoils. There is tolerable good water carried from the port of Santa Maria, in boats kept for that particular traffic, the annual expence of which is estimated at about 96,000 piastres, or 20,000l. sterling; but in times of drought, the town can never be supplied in this way, nor when the sea is rough, or the winds contrary.

Manners and Customs. Cadiz is one of the most remarkable towns in Spain for gentle manners and an agreeable mode of living; there is an ease, frankness, and politeness common in society, and a tone of good company seldom found in other parts of Spain. Strangers are received with pleasure, and treated kindly and frankly. There is a great deal of visiting, and frequent dinners, which are delicate and well served; balls are common enough; entertainments are brilliant, and even sumptuous, for a prodigious luxury prevails in them. This luxury extends to every thing; clothes, carriages, houses, furniture, horses, servants, table, &c. Pleasure is eagerly pursued, though part of the day is entirely devoted to business. Dancing, gaming, walking, plays, company, and love, share and dispose of every moment that can be spared from the speculations of commerce. In the fine seasons of the year, the inhabitants go in crowds to a village called *Chiclana*, which is become a place of meeting and recreation. For some years Cadiz had a French theatre, but it was of short duration. It had likewise an Italian opera, the existence of which was equally transient. The building has been converted into a place for company, where idlers, newsmongers, and others assemble; there are several large halls, which are perhaps overcharged with decorations; this is what is called the Camorra. Cadiz has a national theatre, which is built and laid out with taste.

The women are amiable, lively, affable, and engaging. They unite at once beauty, grace, and a bewitching manner, which it would be difficult to resist. The ladies of Cadiz were celebrated even in the time of the Romans: they were thought to

of

excel in dancing, and particularly in a kind of dance a little free, and peculiar to themselves, which was much liked at Rome: they were equally in request for their ability in playing on various instruments, and for their easy temper, which had something more than sprightliness. The common people of the town are coarse and comical in their speech; and are great braggarts; but this is seldom the case among those above the vulgar.

Inns. There are some good inns in Cadiz, and lately a kind of chop-house has been set up, where there is a bill of fare to choose from, and the price of every dish is twelve quartils, or about three pence halfpenny English money.

Pleasures present themselves in every part of this town, and the traveller, when he is known, and has spent some time there, cannot leave it without regret; but while he does stay, all his amusements must be confined within the walls of the city: the outside, or environs, are detestable; they are parched, bare, and sterile, and this nakedness extends several leagues round; one can hardly find in the neighbourhood of the Isle of Leon, a few kitchen-gardens and orchards, though it has been watered with immense labour*.

THE ENVIRONS OF CADIZ.

The bay of Cadiz is of a very considerable extent: it is from ten to twelve leagues in the round. It is open towards the sea to the east and north, and every where else protected by mountains. It is defended by the fort of St. Sebastian, fort Luis, and fort Matagorda: the first is within gunshot of the gates of the town; the two others defend also the entrance of the arsenal. The ships are ranged in three different classes. The mer-

* This account seems to be at variance with the description given of the same spot in page 68, of this volume. *Trans.*

chantmen

chantmen of different nations usually moor under the fort of St. Sebastian, the Indiamen to the eastward of the bay, and the men of war a little farther. The views round the bay are superb; they are enriched with retired habitations, store-houses, country seats, public buildings, and a number of villages on the sea-side. Among others we see on one side the Caraca, or Royal Dock-yard, the Isle of Leon, the new town of St. Carlos, and those of Puerto Real and Puerto de Santa Maria; and on the other side the town of Rota and the village of Chiclana.

The Caraca is the Royal Dock-yard; it forms a town without gates or walls: its entrance is defended by the forts Luis and Matagorda, the fires of which cross. It contains three great basons, one for careening frigates, the other for careening ships of the line of all rates, and twelve docks for building all sorts of ships of war. It has a great number of workshops, and immense magazines stored with cloth, cordage, cables, anchors, arms, timber, yards, masts, and sheets of copper. Sail-cloth, ropes, and cables are made here; the cables are esteemed the best of Europe. There are 5518 shipwrights and others constantly employed throughout the year.

Chiclana is a pretty village on the right bank of a large canal, which is a continuation of the bay of Cadiz. It stands on a rising ground which commands the canal, while it is itself commanded by

by several little eminences, and an ancient castle of the Moors in ruins. With a good wind and a favorable tide, the passage from Cadiz is made in a couple of hours. It contains a great number of handsome country houses. It is a place of resort in the fine times of the year, chiefly in spring and autumn. It is then very brilliant and crowded with company, who vie with one another in opulence, taste, and elegance: there is a succession of dinners, balls, entertainments, concerts, and sports; the women exhaust the resources of the toilette and of the most studied elegance, and the men forget business in the midst of pleasures.

Puerto Real is a little town situated also on the bay, two leagues from Cadiz, and half way from the town to Port Santa Maria. There is a handsome road to it: the streets run in a line, are straight, airy, and clean. At the end of the seventeenth century it had only about fifteen hundred inhabitants; it has at present 10,000, and the population is daily increasing. It has an Alcade major for the administration of justice, and a board of public economy. Near the town there are considerable salt-pits, which yield annually about 21,300,000, hundred weight of salt, from which results an important branch of commerce. The salt is extracted by evaporation by the following process: large spots of ground are laid out and intersected by canals, pretty wide and equally deep; into these the sea water is introduced by means of little

little sluices and there left for some time, during which the heat of the sun evaporates its lightest particles. It is then conveyed into shallower canals, where it undergoes a second evaporation, and becomes so acrid as to burn the feet of the workmen if plunged into it. It is farther removed into a long, narrow canal, dug about a square piece of ground, which is divided into triangular basons; there a third evaporation takes place, after which it is conveyed into the basons, where it is once more operated upon by the sun: here it is incessantly stirred about with long poles. It deposes a sediment, which becomes as hard as stone, if suffered to take too great a consistence; but the workmen are incessantly employed in bruising it, and taking it out. The continual shaking of it causes a white froth to rise to the top, which is carefully skimmed off, and yields a salt much whiter, but much less pungent than that formed at the bottom. The rest is gathered in large pieces in the open air.

From Puerto Real to Puerto de Santa Maria, the road is very fine, and crosses two branches of the Guadaletta, by two bridges of boats constructed in the year 1790: the first is two hundred and fifty feet long, the other about one hundred and sixty six. This town, in English Port St. Mary, was the ancient Menestei portus. It stands on the bay of Cadiz, four leagues from that city, and two from Puerto Real; by sea it is but three

leagues from Cadiz: the passage is usually made in an hour. The streets of the town are pretty wide, well paved, clean, and carefully attended to. The Calle Ancha, or Broad Street, is a mile long: it is much frequented, very lively, and full of shops of all kinds. The houses are tolerably well built; those to the east have a fine prospect, having in sight Cadiz and the Bay, with the villages and seats around it. The churches here are remarkable only for the profusion of their rich ornaments, distributed without taste. There is a very handsome promenade, or rather garden, situated on the bank of the Guadaletta, having several large walks planted with orange trees, interspersed with flowers and all sorts of fragrant shrubs. This town has one parish church, and eight convents of monks and nuns. It is the residence of the captain-general of Andalusia, and of a vicar-general and official to the archbishop of Seville. It has a civil and military governor, an Alcade mayor for the administration of justice, and a port-captain. There are some manufactories here for staining linens in the manner of printed calico, and whitening wax; but the wax is not well purified. The inhabitants make a considerable profit, by sending water in boats, not only to Cadiz, but for watering the fleets and other ships bound to America.

There was formerly at Port St. Mary a large collection of books, manuscripts, pictures, intaglios, sculptures, engravings, medals, and other monuments

monuments of antiquity: it was made by the late marquis of Canada, but has been since sold to different persons. In the house where it was kept, there was nothing to be seen but some Roman inscriptions, and a few remnants of antique monuments. I purchased the two best; one a sepulchral urn, decorated with two heads of Jupiter Ammon, and foliage wrought with much taste, great nature, and extreme delicacy; it was found on the beach at Cadiz: the other a marble head, representing a comic mask, found at Medina Sidonia. Count de Caylus has given a description of the former.

The country about Port St. Mary is handsome, full of gardens, planted with vines, orange, olive, and other trees.

The Road from Cadiz to the Frontiers of the kingdom of Granada, 19 leagues*.

Cadiz to	
The Isle of Leon,	2 leagues.
Xerez de la Frontera, (a town)	4
Arcos, (a town)	3
Algar, (a little town)	5
Broque, (a village)	
Grazalema,	5
Frontiers of the kingdom of Granada.	

The road leading from Cadiz to the Isle of Leon, and to Xerez de la Frontera, has been already described. That from the latter town to Arcos is three

* The Road from Cadiz and Xerez de la Frontera to Ronda and Malaga.

leagues: there are a great many buildings or penns upon it, for raising horses and sheep for shearing.

Arcos is a little town, situated on a very high rock, almost surrounded by the river Guadaletta, and extremely difficult of access at the south and east; it is said to be the ancient Arcobriga, but this must be a mistake, for there were but two towns of that name, one in Lusitania, the other in Tarraconensis. Arcos has two parish churches, seven convents, and about 12,000 inhabitants. It is the residence of a vicar-general and official of the metropolitan of Seville. The principal altar of the parish church of Saint Mary, is a good piece of architecture, and ornamented with sculptures tolerably executed. The adjacent hills and valleys are rich and pleasant, covered with a variety of plantations, and many fruit trees; the road as far as Broque is very hilly. The next place is Algar, a little town lately built by Dominico de Carvajal, Viscount de Carrion, who formed a settlement there: it has a parish church, and one hundred houses. We soon after come to Broque, in leaving which we proceed by a continual ascent to the top of one of the highest mountains in Spain: we pass Puerto Royal, whence we see Gibraltar, Arcos, Xerez, and even Cadiz. After descending gently a long way, we arrive at Grazalema. This place is built partly on the side, and partly on the top of a mountain; in the former the streets have steep ascents and descents, but are level in the latter.

Most

Most of the inhabitants are employed in making woollen and coarse cloths, and in manufacturing crucibles: there are about five thousand people. About a mile and a half beyond Grazalema, we enter the kingdom of Granada.

The Road from Ecija to the Frontiers of the kingdom of Granada, 6 leagues.

Ecija to	
Estepa, (a village)	4 leagues.
Herrera, (a village)	1
Alameda, (a village)	1
Frontiers of the kingdom of Granada	$\frac{1}{4}$

The road from Ecija to Estepa is four leagues: this village stands on a hill, which produces a great quantity of corn, and on which there are forests of olive-trees, the olives of which are highly esteemed. The soil is marly and wonderfully fertile: besides corn and olives, we meet with palms. Herrara is likewise in a rich and fertile country, very hilly, of the nature of which the road partakes: it leads to Alameda, a village situated in the middle of immense forests of olive trees. We then continue our way over gentle hills, sown with wheat and barley, where we find the limits of the kingdoms of Seville and Granada.

The Road from the Frontiers of the kingdom of Seville below Grazalema, to Malaga, 14 leagues.

From the Frontiers of Seville below Grazalema to	
Ronda, (a town)	$3\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.
Burgo, (a village)	3

Casarabonella,

Casarabonella, (a village)	2 leagues.
Venta de Cartama	2
Malaga	$3\frac{1}{2}$

THE KINGDOM OF GRANADA.

The kingdom of Granada begins at a mile and a half from Grazalema.

Ronda, the first town, is three leagues and a half from the frontiers of the kingdom of Seville, and four from Grazalema. It is of a middle size: some call it the ancient Munda or Monda, others the Arunda of the Romans. It appears, however, to have been built by the Moors from the ruins of the ancient town of the same name, which was two leagues distant from it. It stands on the sides of a very lofty mountain, the ramifications of which extend as far as Gibraltar; it is situated on the river Guadayra, by which it is separated from its faubourg, the communication with which is by a bridge built in our times in the place of that thrown over by the Moors, which was in ruins; it is raised two hundred and seventy six feet eight inches above the river, so that one cannot look down on the course below without astonishment and dread: the rock is as it were hewn with a pick-axe; the descent from the town is by a kind of stairs of four hundred steps cut in it: this is a work of the Moors. Ronda was taken from them by Ferdinand V, on the 24th of May 1485. It has

has four parishes, six convents of Monks, three of Nuns, a maestranza, a penal judge, an Alcade mayor, and a population of about 12,000 persons. This was the birth place of Alphonso Vasquez, a good painter of the second order, who died in 1650. It has a leather manufactory.

The environs of this town are well cultivated and very fertile; they abound principally with a great variety of fruit trees, which serve to supply Cadiz with excellent fruit. They have also a great deal of pasture land, on which a vast number of flocks are raised.

From this place to Malaga the road becomes rough, uneven, and difficult, yet the great variety of objects and spreading trees on the way render it agreeable. We climb up by several mountains to the very top and then descend, such as those of Vientre, Los dientes de la Vieja, and Norretas. On the top of the last there is a plain well cultivated: we leave the villages of Teba, Cerrato, and Campillo to the left; then passing through the village of Burgo, we come to a very lofty mountain covered with oaks, and on which there are some fine pastures, and plenty of game: at the top of this we pass the Puerto Fernandez, and descend to Casarabonella, a village containing about four thousand persons, situated on the side of a mountain whose name it bears. Proceeding in our descent we pass the Venta de Cartama two leagues farther

farther on, and after travelling three leagues and a half more arrive at Malaga.

Malaga is a considerable city of great trade, situated on the coast of the Mediterranean, at the bottom of a deep bay, on a soil of slate and limestone. It has the sea to the south; to the west it opens into a fertile plain watered by two rivers, and it is protected to the east and north by lofty mountains, the tops of which are sometimes covered with snow, and the sides with olive, almond, orange, and lemon trees, and vineyard grounds. This city was of some consideration under the Romans, as may be imagined from the wrecks of monuments discovered here. Capitals, and columns, half and entire, all of marble, some white, some mixed, have been found on the eminence on which the light house is placed, and where the castle, called by the Moors Gibral faro and Gibrel faro, stands: these remains have been thought to have belonged to a magnificent Pharos, and perhaps to a temple built on this spot by the Romans. Several other beautiful remains of antiquity were found, in the 1789, in digging the foundations of the new Custom-House; among these was a fine statue in white marble, which has been taken for that of an Empress, and a stone with an inscription, of which the greater part cannot be read.

The Moors surrendered Malaga at discretion to king Ferdinand the Catholic, on the 18th of August

August 1487, after a long and obstinate resistance: the taking of it led to that of the city of Granada.

Extent. Situation. Malaga cannot be called a handsome town; it is close; the streets are narrow, ill-paved, and many of them crooked; it has not even a good square: the great square has little title to that appellation, it does not correspond with the extent of the ground on which the city stands. It has, however, a marble fountain very finely executed, a present from the republic of Genoa to Charles I. There are three fauxbourgs to the town.

Clergy. Malaga is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Seville, whose diocese contains a cathedral chapter, a collegiate chapter, seven vicarages, and one hundred and eight parishes. The chapter of the cathedral is composed of eight dignitaries, twelve canons, twelve prebendaries, twelve semi-prebendaries, and four chaplains, called of St Barbe. The town has four parish churches, two chapels of ease, twelve monasteries, ten nunneries, four beaterios, six hospitals, and several chapels and oratories.

Civil and Military Administration. It has a civil and military governor, a king's lieutenant, a major, aide-major, and a fixed regiment of infantry of three battalions, which bears its name and is attached to the place; an Alcade mayor for the administration of justice, a municipality composed of a certain number of regidors, a port-captain, a minister of the marine, an auditor of the marine, and a board of public economy.

Public Instruction. A college for the instruction of youth, another college under the title of St. Elmo for the instruction of mariners.

Population. The population of Malaga was more considerable under the Moors than it is at present; it then reckoned 80,000, inhabitants, but decreased under the Spaniards, and

and was reduced in the year 1747 to 32,000; it is now estimated at 50,000. The decrease of population is more evident in the country appertaining to the city; there were upwards of fifty villages to the westward only, and now there are but sixteen.

Buildings. After the conquest of Malaga, a mosque was converted into a cathedral; it was in the palace of Gibel faro. A new one was afterwards built, the foundation of which was laid in the year 1528. This last has a principal front with two tiers of architecture, each of eight columns of mixt marble, and flanked with two towers, one of which remains unfinished. The church is divided into a nave and two aisles, which are supported and separated by pillars united with Corinthian columns. The choir is in the middle; the stalls of it are made of the most valuable mahogany, ornamented with sculptures and bass reliefs, some of which, by Pedro de Mena, are exquisitely finished. There are some good pictures here: a Conception, by Matéo Cerezo; a Holy Virgin in Glory, with a group of Saints, by Alponso Caro; and in the chapel of St. Francis, there are two superb monuments of two bishops of Malaga. The altar of the Incarnation is uncommonly magnificent, from the fineness of the marbles of different kinds, and of well executed sculptures, which are by John Salazar. There are two fine tombs close to this chapel: the one of alabaster, the other, which is of fine marble, contains the body of Joseph de Molina, a bishop of the city.

This church is paved with squares of red and white marble. It is three hundred and six feet long, and a hundred and seventy-eight wide: the height to the ceilings is a hundred and twenty-three feet, the elevation of the tower two hundred and sixty-seven.

In 1792 a building was erected, on a handsome noble plan, for a custom-house. The consulate of Malaga founded a very useful establishment, which has been attended with happy

happy consequences; a *mont de piété*, the principal object of which is, to prevent needy proprietors from selling their commodities, particularly wines, by anticipation, of course at a great loss.

The Port. The Port of this town is large and secure: it has water for first-rate ships of the line; it holds four hundred merchantmen, and nineteen men of war. Ships sail in and out with every wind, and are well sheltered in the harbour, particularly from the north and east winds, which are here the most violent. For greater safety, two small piers have been lately built between the great pier of the lighthouse and the river Guadalmedina, about three thousand fathoms from each other: since which, a great number of good looking fishermen's houses have been built in that quarter, and several country seats; a handsome promenade has been likewise made, consisting of four walks, planted with trees. There is still a long beach between this and the open sea: at this part the sea is said to have retired upwards of forty fathoms: it appears to be still retiring gradually every day, from which there is room to fear that Malaga may in time lose its harbour, particularly as the river Guadalmedina carries down with it a great deal of sand.

Commerce. The town has a great trade, particularly with England: with France it does little in comparison: in 1789 a hundred ships of the former entered the port, of the latter there appeared to be but eight or ten. At that time the other parts of Spain traded but little here; there were but two Spanish ships entered in 1785, but at present they come in greater number. It likewise carries on a considerable commerce with Hamburgh, Holland, and Italy.

Its imports consist of broad-cloths and iron-ware, which it takes from the English; of mercery, which it receives from Germany, particularly Hamburgh; and spices, cutlery, tapes, and laces, which come from Holland. It furnishes those countries, as well as Italy and the northern nations, with wine,

wine, fruits, sumac, anchovies, and oil: its exportation of wine alone amounts to about 400,000 quintals yearly, and that of raisins to 250,000 quintals. The amount of the imports is valued at 1,800,000 piastres, or 281,250l. sterling; that of the exports at 3,300,000 piastres, or 515,625l. sterling; consequently the balance of trade is in its favour.

Produce. For the produce which suppliess it commerce, and is the source of its wealth, Malaga is entirely indebted to its own lands, to that of Velez-Malaga, and a few adjacent places. Very great attention is paid to the cultivation of the soil, which is of itself extremely fertile: it produces a great quantity of wheat and all sorts of grain, and the country abounds with olive-trees; there are no less than five hundred oil presses in the district of Malaga alone. Fruit trees of every kind, particularly almond, fig, and lemon, are on all sides in great abundance. There is an immense number of vineyards, which produce grapes of different species, all very delicate; some that were transported from the lands on the Rhine, have improved in quality. About 300,000 quintals are dried annually; the wine they produce is delicious; 750,000 quintals are made yearly, of which about 400,000 are exported. The fruits here are delicious, particularly the figs: these are dried, and form a considerable branch of commerce. A great quantity of potatoes is raised here; they were brought from America, and are of different kinds; some have long grey roots, which have a sweeter taste, something like the garden turnip: there are such superabundant crops of them, that besides the consumption in the country, a great quantity is exported. The produce of the country will be still more abundant, and of greater variety, when the design projected by the Consulate of Malaga is carried into execution, of digging two canals that shall water sixty thousand *fanegas** of land. It is

* A fanega is about the fifth part of the English quarter corn measure; the former containing 3311, and the latter 174,24 cubic inches; and a fanega of land, so much as it requires a fanega of seed to sow.

calculated

calculated that the yearly increase of income will be two hundred crowns each fanega, while the expence to the proprietors will amount only to twenty-five crowns in ten years; the result would be an augmentation of produce to the amount of 12,000,000 of crowns yearly, which would be prodigious.

Manufactures. The inhabitants of Malaga have not applied themselves to manufactures. They have but two manufactories for skins, leathers, and soles, and about forty looms for silk stuffs, velvets, taffetas, serges, and silk cloth.

Manners and Customs. This town is agreeable, happily situated on an excellent spot, in a beautiful country, in a mild climate, and under a fine sky. Malaga is crowded with foreigners; the inhabitants are lively, industrious, and active: there is a good deal of money in tolerably quick circulation. The manners here are mild, the society agreeable, and there is a variety of amusements. The men are polite and prepossessing; the women lively, gay, bewitching, and replete with grace; they are accounted the most agreeable in all Spain.

Celebrated Men. Malaga, under the Moors, was the birth place of Ibnu el Beithar, celebrated for his botanical knowledge, and his writings in that science; he flourished in 1186.

There is a very fine road that runs eight leagues, from Malaga to Antequera. We find no village all the way: there are frequent ascents and descents, but very gentle, and over a succession of hills covered with vineyard grounds, which afford a part of the excellent wine of Malaga, known all over the world. A passage cut in a rock, leads to a chain of mountains, on the summit of which we pass the Puerto de Escaberuzala. The country here wears a very singular appearance: rocks in every shape and form, variously situated, intersected,

sected, cut, and ranged in different ways, present a picturesque resemblance of a multitude of buildings. We think we see the fronts of churches, towers, houses great and small, men and animals, crooked streets and straight ones, some broad, some long, and squares more or less spacious. The spaces between the rocks are full of grass, shrubs, and various plants creeping along the ground, or intermixing. This place is called the Torcal. A very fine mixed marble is found here. As soon as we pass this curious place we are but a mile and a half from the town of Antequera: descending the mountain we begin to find the road embellished; it becomes more agreeable, is shaded with trees planted in alleys, and perfectly resembles a walk, at the extremity of which we enter Antequera.

Antequera. This town is situated partly on a hill, and partly in a plain; on which account it is divided into the upper and lower town. Some have thought that it was built by the Moors on the ruins of the ancient Singilis, which was at no great distance from it; but the greater number consider it, with some probability, as the Anticaria of the Romans. The upper town is full of acclivities and declivities; at the top there is a castle built by the Moors, which contains the Hotel-de-Ville, and two parish churches, in one of which there was a collegiate chapter, afterwards removed to the lower town. This part of the town is level; it contains a chapter, two parish churches and several

veral convents; but the other is the more fashionable, the nobility and gentry making it their residence: the lower is chiefly inhabited by labourers and artizans. Antequera is the chief place of a Corregidorat, or where the courts of law are held: it has a criminal judge, an Alcade mayor, and a population of about 14,000 persons. It was the country of Antonio Mohedano, a good painter of the school of Cespedes, who flourished in the beginning of the seventeenth century, and the abode of the Physician Solano de Luque, who rendered himself famous in the eighteenth century by some important discoveries relative to the beating of the pulse.

The parish church of the Saviour, in the castle, occupies the place of the principal mosque of the Moors. The church, which was formerly that of the collegiate chapter, and which is likewise in the Castle, has a body and two aisles, separated by Corinthian columns.

The parish church of St. John in the lower town has some good paintings at the chief altar. That of St. Sebastian, where the collegiate chapter now is, contains some excellent statues: St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Sebastian and St. Catherine, and a very fine picture of St. Jerome, by Guerchin. The front of this church has three stories or tiers of architecture, with four Corinthian columns in the first, balustrades with statues in the niches of the second, and four Doric columns in the last. The

cloister

cloister of the convent of the Tierçaires of St. Francis is ornamented with columns of mixt marble. On an arch at the entrance of the castle there are some Roman inscriptions, which were placed there towards the end of the sixteenth century; they are relative to the town of Anticaria, and these of Singilis and Nescania, which were near it, but no longer exist. This arch is called Arco de los gigantes.

The plain about Antequera, and on which the town is built, is watered by a great many streams and springs which render it fertile, and principally by the rivers de la Villa and Guadalorce, which turn several mills, and likewise supply the fountains of the town with water.

At two leagues from Antequera there are some lime quarries, a meer of salt water, and a mineral spring, famous for curing the stone, on which account it has been called Fuente de la Piedra, or Stone Fountain. From a votive inscription, it is conjectured to have been known and celebrated in the time of the Romans for this salutary effect.

The Road from the Frontiers of the kingdom of Seville, below Alameda, to Granada, $10\frac{1}{4}$ leagues.

Frontiers of Seville about two miles from Alameda	
A Venta,	$\frac{3}{4}$ leagues.
Loxa, (a town)	5
Granada, (a city)	5

The

The road from Ecija to the low hills where the kingdom of Seville ends*; has been laid down; that is to say, about two miles from the village of Alameda, we enter into the Granada road. This passes through a small cultivated plain at the end of which we find a bad Venta. It then runs for five leagues over a succession of hills, which have a soil of mould and chalk, sown with wheat and barley, and thinly planted with oaks, which leads to Loxa.

Loxa is a little town near the banks of the Xenil, on the top of a hill tolerably high, and at the foot of lofty mountains. It is the chief town of a corrégidorat; the country about it is pleasing, fertile, and full of olive-trees, gardens, orchards, fine fruit trees, and flowers. There are immense numbers of hares and rabbits on the land. Leaving the town we pass through a small plain and then a valley, both sown with corn, flax, and hemp; besides which they produce a quantity of good vegetables. We now proceed to the top of a mountain of brown free-stone, from which the view is very fine; and we see at a distance the noble country around Granada. Descending the mountain by a tolerably straight road, the steeper on that account, we enter the magnificent plain of Granada, and arrive at that celebrated city, after travelling five leagues from Loxa.

Granada is a large city which was entirely built

* See page 85.

by the Moors, in the tenth century, and which at first belonged to the dominions of the kings of Cordova. In 1235 it became the capital of a new empire, and soon acquired great celebrity in the Moorish annals. This town, which in a short time became important for its extent, population, wealth, power, and the magnificence of its buildings, was, in the sequel, the ultimate resource and last bulwark of the authority of the Moors in Spain. It particularly distinguished itself by the long and obstinate resistance it made against all the efforts of the catholic kings, under whose government it at length fell in the year 1492, after a siege of more than a year. At that period the town was three leagues in circumference, its ramparts were defended by a thousand and thirty towers; it had within its walls seventy thousand houses, and a population of 400,000 inhabitants *. It had an army of 60,000 men: the number that defended its ramparts in 1491 and 1492 amounted to one hundred thousand. It was protected by two fortresses, each large enough to contain forty thousand men.

The town stands on two hills, at the end of the su-

* The population of Granada had been long a numerous one; it amounted to 200,000 souls in 1350, and insensibly augmented as the kings of Spain extended their conquests in Andalusia, for the Moors, as they were conquered, left their towns and lands, and took refuge in Granada, as a secure asylum against the Spanish power.

perb

perb plain called Vega de Granada, near the Sierra Nevada, on the banks of the Darro, which runs through it, and of the Xenil which bathes its walls. The two fortresses just mentioned are at the summits of the hills on either side, thus commanding the town, which itself commands the beautiful adjacent country ten leagues round: the situation is delightful. The Vega or plain is a little sloping; its diameter is from nine to ten leagues, and its circumference thirty: on the north it is bounded by the Sierra Nevada and the mountains of Elvira, and on the other sides by successive and varied amphitheatres of hills agreeably planted with vines, olive, mulberry, lemon, and orange-trees, &c. It is watered by five rivers; the Darro, Xenil, Dilar, Vagro, and Monachil: besides these it is crossed by various canals, and a vast number of springs form clear and limpid rivulets; and it is covered with meadows, forests of oak, woods of orange-trees, orchards, sugar canes, corn, flax, and in short all kinds of fruits and vegetables. Here we distinguish the Soto de Roma, which is a wood of elms, white poplars, and ash-trees, more than a league in length and half of that in breadth, at the extremities of which some farms appear surrounded by cultivated ground; this wood lies in the centre of the beautiful plain, and was a pleasant retirement for the ancient Moorish kings of Granada, who had a palace in it. The Catholic

kings took possession of it after the conquest of the town.

Extent. Division. Granada was formerly divided into four quarters, namely; Granada, Alhambra, Albayzin, and Antiquerula. This division may be considered as the present one.

Granada is the handsomest, most important, most agreeable, best built, and best inhabited part of the town. It occupies the commencement of the plain and a part of the valleys between the two mountains; it is embellished with a number of fountains, large gardens, handsome squares and fine buildings; it is inhabited by the nobility, clergy, magistracy, and the richest of the citizens; and the principal markets are situated in it. The quarter of Alhambra properly speaking is only a great fortress situated on a mountain called Sierra del Sol, or Mountain of the Sun; it was the residence of the kings, whose palace still possesses great beauties. The quarter of Albayzin resembles a faubourg raised on a hill, where there was formerly a fort which commanded and protected the town, from which it is separated by a rampart; there are about 4000 houses in it. Antiquerula has the appearance of another faubourg built on the plain: it was peopled by settlers from Antequera, and is at present chiefly inhabited by dyers and silk weavers.

Squares and Buildings. The city of Granada has some handsome squares, and several fine buildings. Among the former are el Campo, the plaza Mayor, and Bivarambla; and among the latter, the Alcaxeria, the palace of the chancery, an ancient mosque, the cathedral, two hospitals, and the two palaces of the Alhambra.

El Campo is a large square at the entrance of the town coming from Antequera: a hospital forms part of it, and is a fine building.

The plaza Mayor is in the middle of the town; it is spacious, and used for public shows, particularly the bull-feasts.

The Bivarambla is likewise a large handsome area, of an oblong

oblong form, four hundred feet by two hundred. It is embellished by a beautiful jasper fountain, and by the two fine edifices of the Alcaxeria and Chancery.

The Hospital, situated in el Campo is a large, handsome building.

The Hospital founded by St. John of God is not far from the other: it is a very large and well planned edifice. The portal is ornamented with jasper pilasters, surrounded with a statue of the founder made of marble. It has a cloister, the arches of which are supported by marble columns. The stair-case is handsome, the ceiling over it is gilt, and the walls are covered with paintings in fresco, representing the different periods of the life of the founder.

A convent of Jeronymites stands near the last hospital; it was founded by the famous Ferdinand Gonzalez de Cordova, surnamed the Great Captain. In the choir we see the monument of that general; his statue, of very fine marble, is represented in arms and in a kneeling posture.

The Alcaxeria is in the Bivarambla: it is merely an immense edifice, without ornament, covering a considerable extent of ground: the Moors used it as a kind of bazar; a good many tradesmen still carry on their business there; it contains about two hundred shops.

The palace of the Chancery is in the same area, on the opposite side: it has a handsome front in which there are three large doors, and is ornamented with alabaster columns, over which is a range of windows with gilt balconies.

There is a singular edifice near the cathedral. It is built in porticoes the arches of which are supported by marble columns. It was a mosque in the time of the Moors, but is now a parish church.

The cathedral is not a very large church, but has a handsome dome, resting on twelve arches, supported by twelve great pilasters: the vault is full of paintings and richly gilt, and two rows of gilded balconies run round it over the arcades. Statues of the twelve apostles in bronze, gilt, and as large

large as life, are placed against the twelve columns. There are four marble monuments in a chapel by the chief altar: on the one side are those of Ferdinand V, and Queen Isabella his consort; one of these has a harpy, the other the statue of a Saint at each angle: on the other side are those of Philip I, and queen Joanna his consort. The crown of Ferdinand V, is kept in the vestry, with a great number of ornaments for the use of divine service: some made of gold net-work, one over another; the more modern ornaments are enriched with embroidery studded with pearls and precious stones.

The vault of the church of the Chartreux is covered with fine paintings in fresco, by Antonio Palomino.

The palace of the Moorish kings. We find at Granada the superb remains of the magnificence and luxury of the Moorish kings, and of the fine taste, studied elegance, and ability of their artists: the Alhambra alone contains a great number, all equally precious. As we said before, this place was an immense fortress, the approaches to which were defended by a double row of walls surrounding the hill whereon it stands, and which is still enclosed on all sides by the rivers Darro and Xenil. The Moorish kings built a palace within this fortress on the highest part of the hill. The prospect it commands is one of the finest in the world: the eye looks immediately on the town of Granada, the whole and parts of which it distinctly takes in at once, at the same time that it extends its view to the plain around it, running over the whole, and perceiving all its beauties. We contemplate with delight a country covered with rich productions of all kinds, and a profusion of settlements. A part of this edifice was demolished to erect a new palace, which Charles I wished to build there.

The way up to it is by a long walk winding as it ascends, and planted with elms; several little streams cross it, and in one part it is ornamented with a handsome jasper fountain, whence the water rises higher than the tops of the trees. We come

come first to the palace built by Charles I, situated on a spacious spot. It is a superb structure, insulated, square, and built of free-stone: each of its fronts has a gateway differently decorated ; the principal gateway is of jasper with columns, trophies, and several other kinds of decorations; the platbands of the windows are of black marble, and over them are eagles' heads and lions' mouths holding large bronze rings. In the interior there is a large circular tower, around which run two rows of handsome porticoes, one over the other, supported by thirty two jasper columns, each made of a single piece. The rooms within are richly ornamented. This palace is very much neglected, which is said to have been the case even before it was finished: it is suffered to go to ruin.

We next see what remains of the palace of the Moorish kings. Before we come up to it we pass a kind of ravelin where there are statues of Ferdinand and Isabella. The external appearance of this palace is merely that of an old castle. It is built with large square pieces of free-stone, and surrounded with strong walls flanked with large towers and bastions. We enter by a door made in a large square tower, formerly called the Judgment Gate: it terminates in a point, over which is a key cut out on the marble, and a little higher a hand, meant as symbols by the Moors to signify that the enemy would take the palace when that hand took the key.

The first court is oblong, paved with white marble, and surrounded by a portico, the arches of which are supported by marble columns : the walls and vaults of this portico are covered with festoons, Mosaic and Arabesque ornaments, painted and gilt, with stucco carving, very curiously done ; interspersed with a great number of cartouches, filled with inscriptions, which are almost all of them passages from the Koran. In the middle of the court there is a long bason full of running water deep enough to swim in, which was used as a bath by the persons attached to the service of the palace of the Moorish kings. It is bordered on every side with flower beds and orange walks.

The

The court of the lions forms likewise an oblong area, one hundred feet by fifty. It is surrounded by a gallery supported by columns of white marble grouped two and two and three and three, very slender, and of a singular taste, but carried up with wonderful lightness and grace. The walls are charged with arabesque ornaments in stucco, painting, and gilding finely executed. Two very elegant cupolas, from fifteen to sixteen feet every way, project in the interior at the two extremities of the area, over which there are *jets d'eau*. There is a very large bason in the middle of the court, and over the middle of the bason a superb alabaster cupola, of six feet diameter: it is said to have been copied from the brazen sea of Solomon. It is borne by twelve marble lions, and has a smaller cupola over it, from the centre of which water gushed and ran over from one cistern to another till it fell into the large bason, forming several cascades, the last of which was increased by the sheets of clear water constantly pouring from the mouths of the lions.

There is a multiplicity of apartments within: the audience halls, the apartments of the royal family, the king's baths, those of the queen, and those of their children; a music room, the queen's dressing room, and a variety of others. All the chambers have alcoves cooled by fountains, near which the beds are placed on tiled estrades. The music room has four galleries and an alabaster bason. In the queen's dressing room there is a marble vessel, the tablet of which is pierced with an infinite number of little apertures to give vent to the exhalation of the perfumes constantly burning in it.

Most of the rooms are vaulted, and their vaults are in many places cut open with infinite boldness and delicacy, for the admission of light. The vaults, ceilings, beams and wainscots are either painted or gilt; in many rooms they are incrusted with marble, jasper, and porphyry, and are almost every where loaded with inscriptions, hieroglyphics, and various Mosaic ornaments.

A pleasant seat of the Moorish kings is still in existence, above

above this palace; it is called Xeneralife. It is a delightful residence: the situation is enchanting, the air mild and pure, the gardens, groves, orchards succeed in great variety, with a multiplicity of fountains, the jet of one of which is thicker than a man's arm and rises higher than the top of the house. On the summit of the mountain there is an ancient mosque, which is at present a church dedicated to St. Helen.

Granada still retains marks of the attention given by the Moors to their comforts, the means of procuring which were afforded them by the quantity of spring and river water in the neighbourhood. In many houses we find the remains of baths, which were at pleasure filled with pure water. Most of the houses are embellished with fountains, which give the double advantage of water for domestic uses, and for moderating by its coolness the heat of a climate extremely warm in summer. Many of these fountains are in the courts of the houses; some fall into cisterns, others spout into the air, forming a gentle dew, and others lower and thicker fall into basons, where they serve to form at times sheets of water and cascades. The Granadians, in imitation of the Moors, spread an awning over the courts of their houses to keep off the sun, and live there all the summer: there they eat their meals, and there they receive their company; they find it convenient and agreeable, and never leave it.

Clergy. Granada is an archbishopric, containing a cathedral chapter, six collegiate chapters, three in the town, and three at Santa-Fé, Motril, and Uxixar, and a hundred and ninety-four parish churches.

The three collegiate chapters at Granada, are those of El Salvador, El Sacramento, and the Chapel Royal. The two first have each an abbé for a president, who are the sole dignitaries of them; that of El Salvador is composed of nine canons, and that of El Sacramento of fourteen. The chapel royal has a dignitary, with the title of Grand Chaplain, and seventeen chaplains.

The

The clergy of the cathedral is very numerous, consisting of a chapter and a college, or community; the chapter is composed of eight dignitaries, twenty canonries, seven prebends, and ten semi-prebends; a rector is at the head of the college: it contains ten priests, ten deacons, ten sub-deacons, several young ecclesiastics who are there brought up, and intended to fill the benefices, twelve psalm-singers, two masters of the ceremonies, and nine acolytes.

Courts. This city is the seat of a royal chançery, divided into six chambers, and composed of a president, twenty-five counsellors, two solicitors, and one alguazil mayor.

Administration. This is the residence of the intendant of the province, whose office is frequently united with that of the corregidor or judge. The town has a criminal judge, two alcades mayors for the administration of justice, a municipality composed of a certain number of regidors, a war auditor, a tribunal of the inquisition. The Alhambra has a particular governor of its own, with the title of Alcade.

Public Establishments. Granada has an academy for the mathematics, an university, a board of public economy, a company of invalids, and one of the four maestranzas* of Spain.

Population. The extent of Granada is nearly the same as it was under the Moors: the town of course is great, but its population does not correspond with its extent. Many of the Moors remained in it after the conquest, and Spanish families at the same time removed thither from various parts of the dominions of the Catholic kings, to supply the place of the Moorish families that had gone away; the new settlers, however, were never so numerous as to fill the town, and the population was afterwards farther decreased; for, in 1614, at the period of the total expulsion of the Moors from Spain, a very considerable number of the families of that people left it. The town, which had counted 400,000 individuals within its walls,

* See for this word the description of the city of Valencia.

which

which had armed 100,000 warriors in its defence, is now reduced to 50,000 inhabitants.

Commerce and Manufactures. Granada carried on a great trade under the Moors, and was even famous for its own productions: it manufactured cloths, various kinds of woollen stuffs, and a great quantity of silks. Those manufactures were still kept up after the conquest; the remaining Moors preserved theirs, and the Spaniards, after their example, established others: they were in a flourishing state about the middle of the sixteenth century. A very wise and extensive regulation for their interest was made and published in 1552. The greatest attention was, at that time, paid to the production of silk in Andalusia, and the trade in it was brilliant. The general causes which brought on the decline of the arts in the rest of Spain, produced the same effect at Granada; agriculture languished, and silk was neglected; the manufactures fell into decay; and, in the seventeenth century, there were none left in existence. An attempt has been made, within a few years, to revive them: some new ones have been established, in which ribbons and silk stuffs are made; but they have never thriven much, and are at this time in but a poor state. There is a manufacture of gunpowder here on the king's account.

Public Instruction. Under the government of the Moors, Granada had several establishments calculated to favour and accelerate the progress of science and literature; schools of very great celebrity, and some academies of repute among the Arabs. It had also several colleges for the instruction of youth, the most celebrated of which was that under the direction of Schamseddin, the Moor, a native of Murcia, so much boasted of by the Arabs. There were likewise several libraries here; among others we are told of that of Matuahal-el-Allah, who reigned here in the twelfth century, a part of which is at the Escurial.

Celebrated Men. Granada is the country of the historian Ferdinand del Castillo, the dominican, who died in 1593; of Marmol, author of a General Description of Africa, of considerable

siderable repute, which has been translated into French by D'Ablancourt; of the famous Francisco Suarez, the jesuit, who published twenty-three volumes of philosophy, morality, and scholastic theology; of Luis de Granada, the dominican, who died in 1588, at the age of eighty-four; he was one of the greatest preachers Spain boasts of; he left two volumes on a spiritual life. This town has also the honour of having given birth to the painter and sculptor Alonzo Caro, two of whose statues are sufficient to immortalize him; the one is the holy Virgin holding the infant Jesus in her arms; this is in the church of Nebrija; the other is a Conception, which is to be seen in the cathedral. They are both so beautiful, that several celebrated artists have taken a journey to Granada on purpose to copy them.

THE KINGDOM OF JAEN.

The road from the Sierra Morena, on the frontiers of La Mancha, to Alcala-la-Real, and the limits of the kingdom of Granada, 21 leagues.

Los Corboneros, a village of the Sierra Morena to	
Linares, (a town)	6 leagues.
Mongibar, (a village)	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Torre Campo, (a village)	2
Martos, (a little town)	2
Alcandete, (a little town)	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Alcala-la-Real, (a town)	5

We go from Los Carboneros, one of the new settleménts of the Sierra Morena, to Linares, a town, at the distance of six leagues from it*. We then pro-

* The description of the road to Linares, and of that town; as also of the road from the Sierra Morena to Jaen by Linares, will be found hereinafter.

ceed

ceed to the villages of Mongibar and Torre Campo, the former situated in a corn country, planted with olive-trees. From Torre Campo, we go by one continued ascent to the topmost hills, which are covered with snow almost the whole year through; and, after travelling two leagues, arrive at Martos, a little town, thought to be the ancient Tucci, afterwards called Augusta gemella: it is situated on the side of a lofty mountain, on the top of which there is a castle. The town belongs to the order of Calatrava, by which a civil and a military governor are kept there, and an alcade mayor for the administration of justice. It was once an episcopal see, which was destroyed under the Moors; its present population amounts to 15,000 souls. The top of the rock on which the castle stands, is famous for the death of the two brothers of Carvajal, commanders of the order of Calatrava. They were accused of having put to death a chevalier of the House of Benavidez, as he was going out of the royal palace of Palencia; and Ferdinand the Judge, king of Castile, yielding to an excess of rage on the bare accusation, without any proof, and refusing to hear what the knights had to say, ordered them to be thrown from the top of this rock. It is said, that at the moment of their execution, the brothers summoned the king to appear at the tribunal of God within a month. The death of Ferdinand, which happened suddenly at Jaen

five

five and twenty days after, in 1312, was considered as an effect of divine justice.

Leaving Martos, we continue ascending to Alcaudete, a little town, with the title of county: it is situated between Cordova and Jaen, eight leagues from the former, and nine from the latter city; almost all the houses are built with black marble. It was formerly defended by a castle, considerable remains of which are yet to be seen. Proceeding from Alcaudete, we still ascend, traversing a chalky mountain, which is cultivated, being sown with corn, and full of olive-trees. The road gradually becomes more difficult and rugged the nearer we approach Alcala-la-real, where we arrive, after an ascent of five leagues.

Alcala-la-real is a little town, of meanish appearance, the approaches to which are difficult: the country about it, however, produces good wine, and exquisite fruits. It has the title of city, and contains a tolerably rich abbey, and a population of eight or nine thousand souls. It is the chief place of a corrégidorat, and has a criminal judge and an alcade mayor for the administration of justice. The site of this town is so lofty, that the rains are divided between the two seas, flowing to the Atlantic by the Guadalquivir, and to the Mediterranean by the Xenil. Here we are on the Sierra Nevada. We no sooner leave Alcala, than we enter the kingdom of Granada.

The

The Road from the Sierra Morena to Jaen, by Anduxar, nine leagues.

Casa del rey, the last post of the Sierra Morena to Anduxar, (a town)	3 leagues.
Jaen, (a town)	6

This is the post road, and the most frequented, from Madrid and La Mancha to Jaen.

Anduxar is the first town of the kingdom of Jaen and of Andalusia. In the way to it we pass through the new settlement of the Sierra Morena, and cross the Guadalquivir over a bridge of seventeen arches: the country through which the road leads is very fertile, especially after rain. Anduxar is a small town, with the denomination of city, situated in a little plain, at the foot of the Sierra Morena, near the Guadalquivir, but a little above it. It was built of the ruins of the ancient Illirgis, or Illiturgis, afterwards known by the name of Forum Julium: vestiges of it are still to be seen between two and three miles off, at a place called Los Villares and Anduxar el Viejo, or Old Anduxar. It is of a tolerable size, and defended by a castle: it is the chief place of a corrégidorat. It has several parish churches, and convents, a corregidor, and a population of about 14,000 souls. The streets are wide, handsome, and clean, and the houses well kept: it trades in silk. The land about it is very fertile, and produces a great deal of corn, oil, wine, honey, fruit, and game.

In

In the neighbourhood of this town they dig a white clay or chalk, which is made into pitchers and vases, of a peculiar kind, delicate, light, and porous, used for keeping water cool in summer: they are called *alcarrazas*, though in other places they have the name of *pujaros;* they are very common in Andalusia, and in the kingdom of Murcia.

The road runs sometimes over fertile hills, full of olive-trees, sometimes through little plains, and now and then over slight ascents and descents, for six leagues, from Anduxar to Jaen.

The Road from the Sierra Morena to Jaen, by Linares, fourteen leagues*.

Las Carboneros, to Linares, (a town)	6 leagues.
The Guadalimar, (a ferry)	1
Ibros, (a village)	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Baëza, (a town)	
Ubeda, (a town)	1
Jaen, (a town)	5

This is another road from the Sierra Morena to Jaen, which is perhaps not so fine a one as the other, but it is more agreeable. We quit the post road at the village of Los Carboneros. Crossing the new settlement of the Sierra Morena, we enter into a plain covered with large oaks, through which we proceed for three leagues, then ascend

* The road from Madrid to Jaen.

the

the sides of a steep mountain, and arrive at Linares. This is a little town, only remarkable for a fountain with many jets, and the remains of a Roman aqueduct, by which water was conveyed to the ancient Castulo, now Cazlona: it is the chief place of a corrégidorat. There are very rich lead mines in the neighbourhood, and one of a semi-metal, with which the emerald tint is given to porcelain. Three miles from Linares we cross the river Guadalimar in a ferry-boat, and come to the village of Ibros, and soon after to Baëza.

Baëza, which some believe to be the ancient Beatia, and the inhabitants of which are called Batestani, was formerly a considerable town; it was much larger than at present, and had a considerable commerce. It had also its Moorish kings: Abdalla was exalted to that state in 1221. It had an episcopal see, which was transferred to Jaen; and an university, which was suppressed. Its population, in the time of the Moors, amounted to 150,000 persons, since which it has decreased nine-tenths; consequently it must have lost much of its grandeur and opulence. The town stands on a hill; the streets of it are wide, the squares spacious, and tolerably handsome; in that of the cathedral there is a fine fountain. It has a chapter, the canons of which are included in the number of those of the cathedral of Jaen. It has, besides, a collegiate chapter, as well as several parish churches, monasteries, and nunneries, a corregidor,

board of economy, and several manufactures of excellent leathers. Its present population is 15,000 persons.

There are some buildings here, which are not without beauty. The ancient house of the Jesuits, and that of the Oratory, are well worth seeing. The public prison is a remarkable edifice. In the church of the Franciscan Monks there is a sanctuary highly decorated: it has four arches, one at each front, supported by eight lofty columns, and twenty-six niches distributed around it, containing a similar number of statues of saints of the order of St. Francis, well executed. The chapel of the ancient university contains the monument of Pedro Fernandez de Cordova, made in 1590, by the sculptor John de Vera: it is very fine. The old cathedral, standing in a square, is in the Gothic style: an attempt has been made, in repairing it, to modernize it. It contains a very fine picture of the Annunciation, done by an unknown painter of the seventeenth century. This town was the birth-place of Gaspard Beccera, who was at once painter, sculptor, and architect, and who distinguished himself in every one of the arts he professed.

Leaving Baëza, we pass through a country, the soil of which is rich, and susceptible of higher cultivation. Farther on we meet with fertile fields better cultivated, in the neighbourhood of Ubeda, a league from Baëza.

Ubeda is a tolerably well built town, three miles from

from the old Ubeda, thought to be the Betula of the Romans. It has a collegiate church, several parish churches, monasteries, and nunneries, an hospital called St. James's, some woollen manufactories, and about 16,000 inhabitants.

In the church of San Salvador there is a fine statue of St. John the Baptist, in choice marble: it was a present from the republic of Venice to Francis de los Cobos, secretary of state to Charles I, and founder of this church. The hospital is a large handsome edifice, two hundred and sixty-six feet long, and a hundred and three feet four inches high, up to the last cornice of the middle building; it is flanked with four towers; the whole has a majestic appearance. The court is surrounded with two rows of porticoes: it has a great handsome staircase, forty-six feet and a half high, and twenty-five broad; it is painted in fresco. The principal altar of the church has two tiers of architecture, embellished with twenty statues, a great number of bass-reliefs, and eight pictures in the spaces between the columns: every part of it is finely executed.

From Ubeda we travel through a beautiful, lively country, fertile and well cultivated, sown with corn, and planted with vines, olive, and fruit trees, particularly fig-trees, the fruit of which is excellent; and, after a journey of five leagues, arrive at Jaen.

Jaen, the capital of the kingdom of that name, was, according to some authors, the Oningi of

Pliny, and likewise the Oringi of Livy; and, according to the opinion of others, the Mentessa of the Romans. This kingdom, which was founded by the Moors at the time of the revolution by which Cordova was dismembered and broken into several states, was a district of no great extent, and was in the possession of the Moors for five hundred and thirty years. Ferdinand II, king of Castile, took Jaen and its territory from them in 1243.

This city is situated at the foot of a mountain of mixed marble, at the top of which the ruins of its antique castle is to be seen, a league from the river Guadilbeva, and two from the Guadalquivir.

Extent, Squares, and Streets. It is surrounded by walls, flanked with towers at certain distances, is of a middle size, and tolerably handsome. It has some squares, one of which is spacious and contains pleasant houses. The quantity of water in the town is so great, and the fountains are so well distributed in the squares, streets, and houses, that enough could be spared to water the whole country. One of the springs, called La Madelaine, issues from a rock near the parish of that name, in such a body that the circumference of the fountain measures ten or twelve feet.

Clergy. Jaen is the see of a bishop suffragan of the archbishop of Toledo, formerly fixed at Baëza: its diocese contains two cathedral chapters, one at Baëza, the other at Jaen; two collegiate chapters, of which one is likewise at Baëza and the other at Ubeda; seven archpriests, and four hundred and thirty eight parish churches. When the dignitaries of the cathedral chapter die intestate, the bishop succeeds to their property; and in case of a will, which they cannot make without the permission of the Pope, he is entitled to choose whatever piece of furniture he likes best: this right is called *luctuosa,*

tuosa, or *the mourning due*. Besides the cathedral and several parish churches, Jaen has a great number of monasteries and nunneries, and two hospitals. The chapter of the cathedral is composed of eight dignitaries, twenty one canons, twenty one prebendaries, and thirty priests who serve the church.

Administration. This city is the residence of the Intendant of the Province; it has a criminal judge, an Alcade mayor for the administration of justice, a municipality composed of a determined number of regidors, a board of economy, and a population of about thirty thousand souls.

Edifices. It has some churches, and some convents constructed with sufficient luxury.

The convent church of the nuns of St. Claire is a handsome structure, and at the principal altar there are nine excellent paintings by Angel Nardi.

The parish church of St. Anne contains a very large and exquisite painting of Nuestra Señora de la Luz, in which the Holy Virgin is sitting with the infant Jesus in her arms; around her are many groups, among which are discovered sovereign pontiffs, emperors, kings, &c. paying him homage; the figures are as large as life; there is a great deal of expression and nature in the attitudes, the design is correct, and the heads are finished in a style it would be difficult to surpass: this picture is ancient, and the painter unknown.

The cathedral is a noble piece of architecture; its front, to the east, flanked with two handsome towers, is ornamented with eight Corinthian columns, and has three doors embellished with bass-reliefs; there are statues on the cornice. The church is large and divided into six aisles, but disfigured by the choir, which occupies the nave. At the principal altar there is a magnificent tabernacle made of green and mixed marbles, with brazen ornaments gilt; the execution of it is beautiful and just. The chapel of the Sacrario is a fine piece of architecture. There is a capital painting of the Conception, by Sebastian Martinez, in the cathedral; and another of the dying Magdelene in the vestry, the entrance to which

which is by a magnificent vestibule of sixteen arches projecting from the walls, on sixty six insulated columns of the Corinthian order. In the treasury is kept a great silver tabernacle intended for the Holy Sacrament; it has six stories of architecture, with a number of little statues intermixed: the whole is well executed, and was done about the year 1536.

Manufactures. Commerce. The city of Jaen was formerly rich and commercial; it had a great number of silk manufactories, and in the year 1565 even adopted the regulations which the city of Granada had established for its own manufactories. They all failed at the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century, and were scarcely remembered to have existed when an attempt was made to reestablish them about the middle of the eighteenth century. At the same time five thousand tape looms, one thousand two hundred for ribbons, and several for silks were set to work; however they did not support themselves, and but very few of them are remaining at this time.

The environs of Jaen are extremely agreeable, full of delightful fertile valleys, and abounding in corn, hemp, flax, pasture, and exquisite fruits. The lands belonging to the town yield the same productions, and in still greater plenty: they are, particularly, planted with trees of every kind, and as there is no deficiency of mulberry trees, the silk-worm is raised, but it is an object very much neglected.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT RELATIVE PARTICULARLY TO ANDALUSIA.

Population. A rapid view of the state of Andalusia in remote times, particularly under the Moors, will be sufficient to show that the population of it has very greatly decreased since the expulsion of those nations. The Guadalquivir could then number twelve thousand villages along its banks; the kingdom of Granada alone contained thirty two large towns, ninety seven smaller ones, and upwards of two thousand

sand villages: throughout Andalusia, at present, the whole, whether cities, towns, or villages, does not amount to more than eight hundred and nine. In the kingdom of Granada only there were three millions of inhabitants; the present population of all Andalusia is not more than six-tenths of a quarter. A similar decrease has taken place in the towns. Cordova contained two hundred thousand persons, Malaga eighty thousand, Granada two hundred thousand, Baëza one hundred and fifty thousand, and three hundred thousand left Seville after the siege of the year 1247; at present the estimate is no more than thirty five thousand at Cordova, fifty thousand at Malaga, the same number at Granada, ninety six thousand at Seville, and fifteen thousand at Baëza.

Many parts of Andalusia of course are now almost deserts. In travelling through this country, particularly the kingdom of Seville, one striking observation presents itself; the districts appropriated to corn and pasture are almost entirely unpeopled. This is particularly evident in going from Chiclana to Algeziras, where the country, fourteen leagues in extent, is the least peopled of any not entirely left waste; only a few cottages and two poor villages, Vejer and Medina-Sidonia are to be seen the whole way.

According to the estimate made in the year 1788, the total population of Andalusia amounted to one million eight hundred and twenty nine thousand one hundred and six persons, distributed as follows:

In the kingdom of Seville	754,293
. . . . . Granada	661,661
. . . . . Cordova	236,016
. . . . . Jaen	177,136
Total . . .	1,829,106

This

This enumeration includes—

Parish Priests, 898	144 in Seville. 490 in Granada. 144 in Cordova. 120 in Jaen.
Secular Priests, 4,681	745 in Seville. 627 in Granada. 1,465 in Cordova. 1,844 in Jaen.
Monks, 12,284	6,122 in Seville. 2,899 in Granada. 2,091 in Cordova. 1,172 in Jaen.
Nuns, 6,624	2,320 in Seville. 1,097 in Granada. 1,109 in Cordova. 1,098 in Jaen.
Nobles, 9,914	1,573 in Seville. 1,197 in Granada. 999 in Cordova. 874 in Jaen.
Advocates, 1,513	460 in Seville. 382 in Granada. 94 in Cordova 77 in Jaen.
Writers, 1,747	752 in Seville. 552 in Granada. 155 in Cordova. 188 in Jaen.
Students, 6,318	2,963 in Seville. 1,822 in Granada. 952 in Cordova. 581 in Jaen.
Servants, 31,263	17,494 in Seville. 7,196 in Granada. 2,477 in Cordova. 4,096 in Jaen.

AGRICULTURE OF ANDALUSIA.

Andalusia is full of lofty mountains, intersected by many hills and valleys, and contains several plains, which are, however, rarely very extensive. The kingdom of Cordova is mountainous

mountainous almost throughout. That of Jaen has the appearance of a kind of conch-shell, formed by a succession of hills and valleys encircled by mountains: the plains are small, and rather the prolongations of valleys; the largest of them is about four or five miles long and two wide; it is situated nearly in the centre, and on one of the most elevated parts of the province, not quite three miles from Linarez; the prospect there is very fine, the eye takes in at once Anduxar, Baëza, Ubeda, and Banos. But mountains are still more numerous in the kingdom of Granada, and so likewise are beautiful vales and fertile hills: the superb plain of ten or twelve leagues about Granada, has already been mentioned, and will here be noticed again. The kingdom of Seville is the part in which there are most plains; the lands of it are every where very fertile, and their produce considerable.

The Vega of Granada is the finest and richest plain in Andalusia; it forms a superficies very gently sloping of thirty leagues in circumference. It is bounded on the north by steep mountains, but every where else is terminated by a progressive succession of hills, which seem to rise one above another, thus presenting a vast and magnificent amphitheatre of an enchanting appearance. Vines, mulberry, olive, orange, and lemon trees, every where delight the sight, and the impregnated air diffuses a delicious perfume. This beautiful plain is watered by five rivers, and several canals, and abounds with springs that form brooks of fine clear water which greatly contribute to the fertility of the land. There are few countries so fruitful, rich, and abounding in useful and agreeable productions. Every thing is to be found in it; fields of flax and hemp intermix with vegetables of all kinds: corn grows in great plenty, innumerable orchards furnish fruits of all sorts; oaks of the greatest beauty, together with orange and lemon trees, form forests, in many parts impenetrable to the rays of the sun.

The soil on the cost of Malaga is excellent and very productive: the climate and situation are very favourable to the introduction

introduction of plants from the West Indies and other hot countries; the sugar cane thrives wonderfully. Velez-Malaga and many tracts of land thereabouts are also extremely fertile, and give considerable returns; they are cultivated with attention and produce much grain of every sort, and they likewise abound in vines, olive, fig, almond, lemon, and other fruit trees.

The environs of Ronda, which are likewise in the kingdom of Granada, display a continued succession of fruit trees. There is a tolerably extensive plain about the town of Almeria, but, whether owing to the badness of the soil, or to neglect in the cultivation of it, it is almost barren: at a little distance, however, there is a valley, in which the bishop's country-house is situated, where vegetation is remarkably quick, the land abounding in springs, the productions strong and in great variety, and the plantations of every kind in excellent condition.

There are many plains in the kingdom of Seville, but though most of them are excellent, they are not equal to the Vega de Granada. Several indeed are sterile: that near the confines of the kingdom of Cordova, above Ecija, is covered with wild shrubs and dwarf oaks, that on the way from Cantillana to Seville, five leagues in extent, is poor, without stones, and covered with palms, and the wild green and white asparagus: there are a few olive trees, but dry and slender, the trunks seeming to be nothing but bark. The plain between Chiclana and Algeziras for a space of fourteen leagues, is nothing but open grounds and grass lands, without orchards, trees, or kitchen gardens; it is almost desert; we meet only with a few cottages called Cortijos, and two villages, the whole way. The waste lands in the territory of Utrera alone is estimated to be 20,000 fanegas. There is an immense plain that spreads itself around Seville, watered by the Guadalquivir, and teeming with every kind of produce, among which there is great abundance of corn and oil. It may be added, that there are no stones in the neighbourhood of Seville, not a single

a single one is to be found. It was the same in the time of the Romans, for they were under the necessity of encompassing the town with walls of earth mixed with a mortar so well prepared, that the whole is actually become a kind of stone.

However, this part of Andalusia may in general be reckoned fertile: beautiful, cheerful districts, well cultivated and very productive, are to be seen in every direction.

The soil of the land about Herrera and about Estepa is marly, and produces immense crops of corn, barley, and olives. Near Carlote, particularly for a space of four leagues above Ecija, the land is clayey and calcareous, but it is almost equally productive. The neighbourhood of Alameda is covered with immense forests of olive trees. The country of Carmona yields corn, wine, and oil, particularly the last, in abundance: that of Alcala de Guadayra produces a quantity of corn and oil. The valleys and hills about Arcos are crowded with vineyards, and plots of olive and everykind of fruit trees.

The country in the vicinity of Puerto de Santa Maria is full of vineyards and olive plantations: it has a succession of beautiful rich gardens, and immense numbers of orange trees. But nothing is equal to the superb country of Xerez de la Frontera, which is one continued garden; it produces abundance of corn, its vines yield an excellent wine which is in great request; olive, orange, lemon, and other fruit trees are crowded in every quarter, and it is impossible to pass through it without a delightful sensation. The very fertile and pleasant country of Jaen has already been mentioned at large. The environs of Anduxar likewise are rich in corn, wine, oil, fruits, and honey.

An immense plain extends to the south of Cordova, on the banks of the Guadalquivir, and it is tolerably fertile: but the mountains to the north of the town, to a certain height, and the numerous valleys among them, are much better cultivated than the plain: they are loaded with vineyards, gardens,

and

and forests of orange, lemon, and other fruit trees. The country about Fernan-Nunez, four leagues from Cordova, is an absolute garden, full of similar productions.

The most flourishing state of cultivation in Andalusia is that of the kingdom of Granada. That country was the longest inhabited by the Moors, whose industry has descended to their successors. They were particularly clever in the art of conducting water, and had constructed a number of canals, which are still in existence, and which are turned to great advantage by the modern inhabitants of Granada. The land is every where intersected by canals supplied by the rivers, or formed by the waters of endless springs, and brooks running plenteously down the mountains, so that this province seems to be a real land of promise by the goodness, variety, and abundance of the rich productions which embellish it. The people gather or reap every kind of vegetable, fruit, and corn: wheat, barley, flax, hemp, broom, grapes, oil, sugar, silk, oranges, citrons, lemons, and pomegranates—all in profusion.

But, as has been already shown, the other parts of Andalusia are not in so high a state of cultivation. There are many large estates in it, particularly in the kingdom of Sevile: but agriculture languishes, and the want of people is felt over the country. The shortness of the farmers' leases contributes greatly to this: the terms run but three or four years, at longest five. The farmers think only of turning the farm to immediate quick profit, and do nothing to improve the soil; they pay no attention to orchards, or kitchen gardens, to plantations or fruit trees; corn and grass engross their labour; the consequence is that a custom has been introduced of dividing the land into three parts; one only is cultivated, one remains fallow, and the third feeds the farmer's cattle, which he encreases as much as possible to make the most of his short lease.

Andalusia grows so much wheat that it has been called the granary of Spain; it produces twice as much as is necessary for its consumption. Seville and Granada are the parts which

which furnish the most, and at the same time a prodigious quantity of barley, and likewise maize. A great deal of wheat and barley is reaped on the lands of Cordova, Seville, Carmona, Alcala, Herrera, Estepa, Granada, and Malaga, and in the valleys of Almeria, and near Jaen, Ubeda, and Anduxar. Unhappily the harvests are liable to be destroyed in an instant, by a wind called Solano, which comes from the coast of Africa, if it blows while the grain is tender. This wind, which is a scorching one; dries up the grain in a moment. The kingdom of Granada has been observed to be the most exposed to its ravages. Flax is here cultivated with less advantage than hemp, which is of course more attended to and yields a great return.

Cotton was successfully cultivated by the Moors: at present that speculation is confined to a few districts, and is an object of little importance. It is chiefly raised about Ecija in the kingdom of Seville.

The cultivation of silk was formerly very flourishing in Andalusia; the kingdoms of Granada, Seville, and Jaen produced immense quantities of it, but after the conquest of those countries, it was burdened with heavy taxes: silk was made subject to ecclesiastical tithes payable in kind; the royal tenth it paid under the Moors was retained, estimated at three reals vellon each pound of silk: to these were added a duty of *tartil* of seventeen maravedis per pound, and duties of *alcabalas* and *cientos*, fixed at eleven reals thirty two maravedis. There accrued from it a tax of fifteen reals fifteen maravedis for the king, and six reals, or thereabouts, for the ecclesiastical tithe, making together twenty one reals, fifteen maravedis, or about 4s. 6d. the pound, which at that time sold only for thirty reals, or 6s. 3d. English. The speculators were consequently discouraged, most of them relinquished a labour from which they derived such little profit, and this branch of industry entirely failed in the kingdoms of Cordova and Seville, and afterwards in those of Granada and Jaen. For some time it has been looking up in the two latter kingdoms, but is very far from what it was under the Moors.

Moors. The mulberries of Granada and Jaen are black; they are suffered to grow without any care or management, are never lopped or dressed, and look as if they were planted by chance.

Fruits of every kind are both abundant and good in Andalusia: the quantity of them in the kingdom of Granada is prodigious; there is also a good deal in Jaen as well as in some parts of Cordova, on the mountains, hills, and valleys near the capital, and in the country about Fernan-Nunez. Nor are they scarcer in the kingdom of Seville, and they are particularly plentiful in the environs of Puerto Santa Maria.

Andalusia is sufficiently rich in wine to be considered as the cellar of Spain; it is covered with vineyards from one end to the other. The wines of the kingdom of Granada, and especially in the neighbourhood of Malaga, are the most agreeable, and perhaps the most delicate, of any made in Spain: there are twenty or thirty sorts of them, among which the best and most celebrated are those called Tierno, Moscatel, and Pedro Ximenez. In general they are full-bodied and strong, and those of the kingdom of Granada possess a fragrance extremely agreeable. Of these different sorts three are sweet wines, that of Malaga in Granada, and those of Xerez and Rota in Seville: they are too well known to require any account of their qualities. There is another sweet wine, but not well known out of Spain, made at Montella in Cordova, which is preferred by connoisseurs.

In the lands belonging to Malaga, and in the neighbouring country, they generally gather grapes thrice in the year, at three different periods of their ripening: first in the month of June, and the grapes then gathered, called early, yield a wine which has almost the consistence of honey: a large quantity is dried for raisins, called *pasas*. The second gathering takes place in the beginning of September, and the wine it yields is clearer and stronger, dry, and better: the fruit of this gathering is called, the second crop of grapes. About three weeks later the last gathering is made: the fruit

is

is now called the late grapes, but these produce the real Malaga wine. Among the different sorts of Malaga two are principally distinguished by the connoisseurs, the *lagrima* and the *guindas;* the former is the unpressed wine, from the grapes of the best districts; the latter is the common Malaga, in which are infused the soft buds of a cherry-tree, the cherries of which are called, in Spanish, *guindas*.

The land belonging to Xerez de la Frontera alone, furnishes yearly an exportation of 50,000 quintals of wine; the country about Malaga, 75,000 quintals, besides 300,000 quintals of raisins. There are likewise a great many vineyards in the kingdoms of Granada and Seville, the grapes of which are excellent, and very large, and the bunches of such a size that some of them weigh eight, ten, and even fourteen pounds. A great quantity is dried for raisins, particularly in the environs of Malaga, it being an important branch of the trade of this province. The manner of doing it is very simple, the grapes being put to dry in the sun without the least preparation.

Andalusia every where abounds in olive trees, and in many places to such a degree as to form thick forests of immense extent. The olives of Estepa, and of the environs of Seville are famous. The former are small, the latter often as large as a pigeon's egg: those of Estepa contain a greater quantity of oil, and the oil is clear and delicate; those of Seville yield much less oil, and of an inferior quality, but they are better for eating when pickled; they are very much liked: the finest are those of Alcala de Guadayra; they are the largest in Europe, and the best for pickling.

They have a singular method in the kingdom of Seville of planting olives: they cut off a branch of the size of a man's arm, split the lower end into four about seven or eight inches up, wedging in stones between the separated parts to prevent their uniting again: this is stuck in the ground two feet deep, and a trench dug round it to hold water. The branch takes root, and the olives grow well, but the trees have a poor

poor appearance, and the trunk seems to be little more than bark.

With particular care the oil might be made excellent in Andalusia; but it is sharp, strong, and frequently offensive to the smell, owing to the faults in the making of it, which are much the same all over Spain, though less perhaps at Churian in Granada than elsewhere.

Sugar canes are cultivated from Malaga to Gibraltar: but chiefly at Motril and Torrax. The canes are as large and juicy as those of the West-Indies: they have been cultivated here since the time of the Moors, who introduced them into this part of Spain. An excellent sugar is made from these canes, which will be noticed in treating of the manufactures in general.

A great number of the mountains of Andalusia have a naked surface, but there are some covered with trees. Masticks, cysts, and green oaks are found on those which separate the kingdoms of Granada and Cordova; green oaks on those of Jaen, and on loamy and chalky hills which run below Loxa in Granada; firs and holms on a part of the Sierra Vermeja; oak and cork trees in many places: there are forests on the Sierra Vermeja, in the kingdom of Granada, in the environs of Cullers and of Real Monasterio in Seville, forming impenetrable woods, where some of the trees are of prodigious thickness, measuring five feet in diameter. The Ilex or quercus coccifera is found in the country of Bujalance and Fernan Nunez, in the kingdom of Cordova, where the insects which furnish kermes, are collected. Some of these mountains have a great many excellent pastures, to which the cattle are driven in summer from the plain; of these there is a good number raised, but not equal to what Andalusia might breed. There are also excellent and extensive pastures between Chiclana and Algeziras, between Arcos and Xeres de la Frontera, and in the environs of Ronda, Ecija, &c. where flocks of sheep, and cows are fed.

The finest horses in Spain, are bred in Andalusia, chiefly in

in the environs of Cordova, Arcos, and Ecija. The horses of Cordova are the handsomest: but this object is at present too much neglected throughout Andalusia, where the breed begins to fail.

Manufactures. Much has been said of the number, variety, and flourishing state of the manufactures of Andalusia in the fifteenth and sixteen centuries. It appears that in those days this province had manufactories of cloths, woollens, linen, cotton, and silk; the last were the most numerous, and most important: there were looms at Cordova, Jaen, Seville, and Granada: there are still extant a great many laws which were made for the regulation of the silk manufactories of the last city. Seville however is the place where they are most numerous, and richest; the number would even be wonderful, if we could credit the assertion of the company of arts and trades of that town, who, in a petition presented to the king, in 1701, state that there had been as many as 6000 silk looms, which employed 130,000 persons of both sexes. A more moderate and a more probable calculation makes the number of looms 3000, and the persons employed 30,000.

It was in the middle and end of the sixteenth century, that the manufactures all declined: so early as in 1569, there were but sixty silk-looms at Seville. The decline of the Spanish monarchy, included that of all the establishments which had risen from the national industry; nor was it till the eighteenth century, that the manufactures of Andalusia began to recover a little vigour.

At present in Andalusia, there is a manufactory of cloths, of a middling fineness, at Cordova; there are some manufactories of coarse cloths at Grazalema in Seville, at Yunquera in Granada, at Hinojoso, Aldea-del-rio, and Bujalance in Cordova; some of woollen, as serges, thick flannels, and coarse French stuffs, at Yunquera and Ronda in Granada, Grazalema in Seville, Ubeda in Jaen, Aldea-del-rio, Hinojoso, Torrenolano, and Los Pedroches* in Cordova. These

* Los Pedroches, are seven villages close to one another.

manufactures are unconnected, and in the hands of different persons; are of little importance, and not nearly sufficient for the home consumption.

The manufactures of silk-stuffs, are not more flourishing: there are some at Jaen, Cordova, Granada, San Lucar de Baremeda, and Malaga; but they proceed slowly, and do very little. There are likewise four looms for silk ribbons, at Jaen, Granada, Cordova, and Cadiz; they have been but lately established in the last mentioned town, where there are only twenty. The most considerable are at Seville, where they reckon two thousand three hundred and eighteen looms of silk-stuffs, and ribbons.

The manufacture of linens, was entirely given up in Andalusia; they have lately, however, begun to attend to it again in Granada; but the establishment is still in its infancy.

The other manufactures of Andalusia, are the following:

Two little cotton manufactories, at Malaga.

Nine of leather, furs, and for currying: one at Baëza, one at Antequera, two at Alhama, two at Malaga, one at Ronda, one at Mahella, and one at San Lucar de Barameda.

Two of soap, at San Lucar el Major, and at Brenez.

One of earthen-ware, at Seville.

One of paper, at Arroyo de la Miel.

Two of hats, one at Cordova, and one at San Lucar de Barameda.

Some manufactories of painted callico at Xerez, Puerto de Santa Maria, and the Isle of Leon: these are newly established, but succeed very well.

A manufactory of playing cards, at Machara Viaya, a village in Granada, near Velez-Malaga: it is very considerable, and supplies the consumption of all the Spanish colonies.

One for blanching wax, at Puerto de Santa Maria, in Seville; but the wax is ill cleansed, and badly blanched.

Two of saltpetre, in the kingdom of Granada, one at Almeria,

meria, the other at Granada: it undergoes only one process at Almeria, whence it is then removed to Granada, where it is refined by a second process, and crystallisation, without having recourse to the fixt Alcali.

A gunpowder manufactory at Granada; it works for the king.

A cannon-foundery at Seville, which also works for the king: both cast-iron, and brass cannon are made here, and Maritz' method is partly followed.

A snuff manufactory at Seville, for the king. This is the only one in Spain. It is very considerable, and produces immense sums. Various kinds of tobacco are prepared for smoaking; several varieties are grated, and they make different sorts of snuff, called polvillo, or Spanish dust.

In the number of manufactories of Andalusia, we may reckon the sugar mills, the making of which is a great object. There are upwards of twelve in different places, on the coast of Granada, between Malaga and Gibraltar. In the village of Motril alone, there are four which cost at least 5000l. sterling each. They are all completely employed; the sugar canes are gathered in the fields, and carried to the mills to be ground. The sugar made from these canes, looks as well, and is as good as that which comes from the West Indies.

Commerce. Andalusia is a country of great commerce, but it is confined to the kingdoms of Granada and Seville. It is said that the kingdoms of Jaen and Cordova, had a very flourishing trade when the manufactures were carried on with spirit; at present they have hardly any.

The commerce of Andalusia is both internal and foreign. It sends some of its productions to the other provinces of Spain: namely, a great deal of corn, a little wine and oil, a small quantity of dried fruits, and the kermes which is collected in the woods of Bujalance and Fernan-Nunez. It receives in return, some productions of the ground, barley

from the kingdom of Murcia, rice and silk from the kingdom of Valencia, and some of their manufactures, a certain quantity of which is used at home, and the rest goes to the colonies in America.

The port of Almeria, in the kingdom of Granada, was very famous under the Moors, and the most frequented in Spain: a considerable commerce was carried on there, which began to fail after the plague that had made its way into Spain by this port, in the middle of the fourteenth century, and swept off a third of the inhabitants: it has never since looked up; and is now confined to exporting lead, kali, and spart to France, and importing some articles of French manufacture.

Velez-Malaga and Marbella, both in the kingdom of Granada, have neither bay nor harbours, but an open, unprotected shore: they, nevertheless, carry on a traffic, shipping and exporting fruits, and the country wines.

Malaga, being the port the most considerable in the kingdom of Granada, is the seat of active commerce, particularly with Italy, England, Holland, and Hamburgh. It sends to those countries, a great quantity of wines, dried fruits, sumach, anchovies, and oil; and receives in exchange woollens, and ironware, from the English; mercery, from the Hamburgh merchants; spices, cutlery, lace, and tape, from the Dutch. The amount of the exports is estimated, *communibus annis*, at 3,300,000 piastres, or 515,625l. sterling, and of the imports at 1,800,000 piastres, or 375,000l. sterling. The estimate of the exports seems too low. The dried figs, raisins, and wine, shipped at Malaga, are alone equal to that sum; there are yearly about 100,000 quintals of figs, 250,000 quintals of raisins, and 400,000 quintals of wine: there remain other articles of importance, sumach, anchovies, lemons, almonds, various other fruits, and oil; the oil of itself goes for about 1,000,000 of piastres, or 208,333l. sterling.

The kingdom has two ports, one at Algesiras on the Mediterranean sea, and the other at Cadiz on the Atlantic. The former

former has scarcely any trade; it ships little more than coals, dug out of the adjacent mountains, which it sends to Cadiz, and some freights of corn and brandy by Catalonian vessels: the latter has a double kind of trade, with the Spanish colonies, and with Europe. That with the colonies was very considerable, and produced immense wealth, at the time when Cadiz had the privilege of carrying it on exclusively; but since it has been open to the other principal ports of Spain, the loss to Cadiz has been prodigious: its trade at present with the colonies is not the half of what it formerly was; yet it is still very considerable, and Cadiz retains a superior influence in it. It sends to the colonies some productions of the Spanish soil, the manufactures of the kingdom, and a great part of the merchandize it obtains from the foreign ports of Europe. In return, it receives a great deal of the produce of the colonies, and a large portion of the gold and silver, both coined and in bullion, which come to Spain. Its trade with Europe is still very considerable, extending to Italy, France, England, and Holland. It exports fruits, wine, about 25,000 quintals of sherry, oil, and salt, from the salt-pits of Puerto Real, which is an object of more than 4,000,000 of piastres, or 833,333l. sterling. It imports cloths, stock-fish, and iron-ware from England, and linens and spices from Holland; but its principal trade is with France, which sends it woollens from Havre and Rouen, linens from Nantes, Morlaix, and St. Malo, and cloths and woollen stuffs from Amiens: the commodities it receives every year from Marseilles, the principal of which are silks, gilt articles, and iron-ware, are computed to be worth 500,000l. sterling.

Seville formerly carried on the trade with America, and that city was then very opulent, but it soon sunk after that commerce was confined, which was in 1720, to the port of Cadiz. At present it trades a little with different parts of Europe: it is not a sea-port, but ships of considerable burden go twelve leagues up the Guadalquivir, and anchor at Seville.

STATE

STATE OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES IN ANDALUSIA.

The sprightly genius of the Andalusians inclines them more to literature than to the study of the sciences; it is to poetry they have been more particularly devoted. In very early days they gifted ancient Rome with several happy geniuses, who shone on that great theatre, and whose names acquired celebrity; but they were almost all men of literary taste. The orator Marcus Annæus Seneca, Seneca the philosopher, or rather Lucius Annæus Seneca, his son, who wrote *De Consolatione, de Vita beata*, &c.; the poets Sentilius Hena and Marcus Annæus Lucanus, and the orator Marcus Portius Latro, were of Cordova; the poet Canius, the historian of the Augustan age, Lelius Cornelius Balbus, and Junius Moderatus Columella, who wrote on agriculture, were of Cadiz: the geographer, Marcus Pomponius Mela, was an Andalusian.

We find no vestige of the sciences or literature being cultivated in Andalusia under the Goths. St. Isidore, archbishop of Seville, in which town he was born, is the only person we know of that paid them any attention; he was both a theologian and historian: he lived in the seventh century.

The Moors becoming masters of Andalusia, successfully cultivated the sciences and letters. That was a brilliant era for this province of Spain; astrology, astronomy, physics, and mathematics, were held in honour. The names of Abi-Zelti, the astrologer; Ali Aben Ragel, Abraham ai Zarakeel, and Mahomed Geber, of Seville, the Astronomers; Abu Nazarus Phalibus, the naturalist; and Abraham ei Zarakeel, the mathematician, were distinguished, and have been justly transmitted to us. Medicine, above all, was cultivated by the Moors with the greatest success; their system made its way from Spain to France, and thence to the rest of Europe, completely overturning that of the Greeks. The names of the Moors of Andalusia who were celebrated in this science are extremely numerous: an Averroez, an Avicenne, an Aben Zoar, an Almanzar, diffused their knowledge throughout Europe.

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their writings became the guides of all the schools. At the same period the Moors, Ibnu al Beithar, of Malaga, Jarens Joli, Abu Hazen, Geber, and Margaribus, wrote, the two first on botany, the third on chemistry, the two last on alchymy. Poets and dramatic authors appeared in numbers; and even the women distinguished themselves in poetry: fame speaks of a Safia of Seville, of an Aischa of Cordova, who was crowned several times by the academy of that city, and of a Maria Alphaisuli, who was called the Sappho of Spain. The grammarians all acknowledged Jonas ben Ganasch for their model. An Abi Zelti wrote on music. Good historians particularly appeared on all sides: Rhazis, Abu Baccar Mahomed, Eltus Bacar, Abul Caim Tarif, Iben Cacham, Cacim Aben Agi, and Abul Farajus, have left us interesting histories of Spain, of the kings of Cordova, of Asia, of Africa, of the Arabs, of their dynasties, and of their manners, which are still consulted and cited as authority. The Moors took away with them all taste for the sciences and letters; when they quitted the country, Andalusia relapsed into its former barbarism.

In the sixteenth century, however, some happy geniuses arose in the midst of apathy and ignorance. Cordova and Granada produced two great preachers, Francisco de Toledo, and Luis de Granada. The theologian Francisco Suarez, their contemporary, known by voluminous writings on theology, was of Granada; Alphonso de Santa Cruz was of Seville; he distinguished himself in the mathematics; Garcias de Matamoros of the same city published learned treatises *de Academiis et doctis viris Hispaniæ, de ratione dicendi, de methodo concinnandi.* Some historians appeared at the same time with distinction, such as, Ambrosio Moralez of Cordova, Fernando del Castillo, and Marmol, both of Granada. To the last of these we are indebted for a highly esteemed description of Africa, which has been translated into several languages.

Cordova had previously, in the fifteenth century, produced the poet Juan de Mena, who had the glory of being the first to transfuse into Castilian verse the excellence of lyric poetry.

poetry. The following century produced Fernando Herrera, a pleasing poet, Juan de la Cueva, who was an elegant one, and a lady, Felicia Henriquez de Gusman, who treated the Muses with a grace and delicacy peculiar to her sex, and successfully cultivated poetry: all the three were of Seville. But Andalusia likewise produced a man in the end of the sixteenth century, who, in the succeeding century, became the reformer, scourge, and destroyer of the Castilian poetry; Luis de Gongora of Cordova was the creator of a style, of a poetical sect of the vilest taste, who destroyed all that was noble, delicate, and sublime in the Spanish poetry*. The seventeenth century presents only one name worthy of notice, that of Christobal Lechuga, of Baëza, who composed a treatise on artillery, fortification, and tactics.

Andalusia may boast of the artists it has produced. The names of the famous sculptor Alphonso Cano of Granada; of the painter Antonio Palomino, of Bujalance; of Pablo Cespedes of Cordova, at once painter, sculptor, architect, and poet; and of the painter Bartolomé Murillo of Pilas near Seville, are well known. After these, we may mention the painter Pedro Anastasio of Granada, a pupil of Cano's, and Gaspard Beccéra of Baëza, who with talents for painting united considerable skill in sculpture and architecture. We may here likewise add the names of Juan Luis Zembrano, and Antonio Castillo, both of Cordova; of Francisco Herrera the younger; and of Pablo de las Roelas, both of Seville, all second rate painters; nor should we omit those of Juan de Penolosa of Baëza; of Alphonso Vasquez of Ronda; and of Antonio Mohedano of Antequera, meritorious painters, and all of the seventeenth century.

Little attention has been paid to the means of facilitating the study of the sciences, and of engaging in the cultivation of letters in Andalusia. The kingdoms of Cordova and Jaen have no establishment favourable to them, no good classes of

* This will be noticed in the general statistic account of Spain, under the head of Literature.

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any kind, if the expression may be used. There are merely schools for learning the rudiments of the Latin language, or, at most, some bad monastic schools where the peripatetic philosophy and scholastic theology are taught. The kingdoms of Seville and Granada have each, notwithstanding, a university, but they are of a second, nay, third rate order, without a sufficient number of masters or any particular establishment for botany, chemistry, anatomy, experimental philosophy, or natural history; without a library, nay, sometimes without students; so that, far from having the power to be useful, they are injurious, by inducing a loss of time to those who attend them.

A mathematical school has been established at Cadiz for teaching the mathematics, drawing, and whatever is necessary to boys intended for the engineer service.

The royal navy has schools for itself in the isle of Leon, near Cadiz, where likewise the mathematics, drawing, navigation, &c. are taught: and no pupils are admitted but those designed for the navy.

Seville has a school for navigation in the college of St. Telmo, but open to every body.

Towards the middle of the eighteenth century schools for surgery were established at Cadiz; they are upon the same footing as those of Barcelona and Madrid.

There are two academies at Seville, one of medicine and one of belles-lettres: the latter is the only one of the kind in Spain, but the members are known neither by name nor ability; nor are the labours of the former more known.

Establishments for the arts are rather more numerous in Andalusia, and conducted in a more useful manner. There are schools for drawing at Cordova and Seville; schools for navigation at Seville and Cadiz; an academy of painting at Seville, where there is likewise a school for chanting, at the college of St. Isidore.

In respect to public libraries, there are two at Seville, and one at Xerez de la Frontera.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF ANDALUSIA.

The names, direction, division, and ramifications, of the principal mountains of Andalusia, have been already pointed out. Their composition differs in the different districts; in Granada, they are almost all blocks of marble of various colours; they are not so steep, and more covered with earth, in a part of Cordova; most of those of Seville have a calcareous soil, and are likewise more woody, producing a great number of real *alcornoques* or cork trees; in some places, they form immense forests; they are thickest on the mountains towards Cazalla, Real-Monasterio, and Collero: some of those trees are five feet in diameter. The mountains of Granada are steeper, and very thinly wooded, yet they have trees of various species, as the firs, on one part of the Sierra Vermeja, and alcornoques and holms on the other side of the same Sierra, or on the red mountain. There is a remarkable circumstance attending this Sierra: the mountains which form it, by a continued chain eastward, towards Malaga, run on two parallel lines, and so close, that their bases meet, yet the one is red, and the other white. The former is loftier, but has no snow upon it for several months in the year, and is entirely covered with firs: no mine has been discovered in it, yet it has a spring of sulphureous mineral water. The latter, or white mountain, is almost always covered with sufficient snow to supply the neighbouring places with it: it is wooded with the oak *(quercus robus,)* and holm; and it has iron-mines, and mineral springs.

The very singular figure of a mountain, in the kingdom of Granada, likewise deserves attention: it is on the way from Malaga to Antequera, not far from the Puerto de Escabernuela. The rocks are correspondent, shaped, divided, situated, and arranged in different manners, so varied, and at the same time, so regular, that they deceive the eye with the appearance of a magnificent town. This illusion has already been mentioned in the Itinerary.

Andalusia,

Andalusia, under the Romans, was very rich in mines of different kinds, not excepting gold and silver, but has at present very few; indeed hardly any worth mentioning: perhaps they were exhausted by the Romans, or they may be still in existence, but, the traces of the veins being lost, are now unknown.

There are vestiges of an ancient gold mine on the Sierra Leyta, near the town of Meron in Seville; but those vestiges are all that remain of it.

The mountains of the kingdom of Seville, on the confines of Estramadura, towards Guadalcanal, Alanis, Puerto Blanco, and Cazalla, which form a part of the extremity of the chain of Sierra Morena, contain several silver mines, which have been worked. There is one of these in the Sierra Morena, three miles from Guadalcanal, which to all appearance must have been very rich: there were three shafts for descending, the mouths of which are still to be seen: it was worked in the seventeenth century, and given up in 1653. It is believed, that it was inundated by the workmen, in revenge for a new tax that was laid upon them. Another silver mine was also worked formerly, a league and a half from the other; it has a shaft, and a gallery of ancient construction; the vein is six feet in circumference, and is composed of spar and quartz. There is also a third mine, a league and a half from Guadalcanal, and half a league south-east of the village of Alanis, in the middle of a field; it is two feet wide; the Romans constructed a gallery in it, from south to north; a branch of it running eastward, has been worked since their time: it originally contained pyrites and quartz, but it is by no means rich; there is lead at the bottom. Following the same mountains, we arrive at Puerto Blanco, where there is another mine, half a league from the village of Cazalla; it was opened only a few feet in depth, when it was found to contain virgin silver, pyrites, brass, quartz, and some iron.

The mine of Constantina, is the most noted; it is in the mountain of Fuente de la Mina, two leagues and a half from Cazalla

Cazalla, and two leagues from the village of Constantina, from which it takes its name. There is silver on the surface of it, with iron and lead mixed in the spar, but most lead at the bottom. The shafts and galleries prove, that it was worked with skill. An individual of Constantina undertook to work it about the middle of the eighteenth century; he made two shafts, and two galleries in the most elevated part of the mountain; but it was soon abandoned for want of money, or skill.

Two leagues from Linarez, in the kingdom of Jaen, there is a silver mine, famous in the time of the Carthaginians, which belonged to the beautiful Himilca, wife of Asdrubal. The Romans also worked this mine. It has a shaft 2000 feet in depth, into which a number of galleries open. This mine was long given up; it was re-opened in the seventeenth century, when a vein five feet in breadth was found, from which many pieces of silver were taken; the working of it, however, has been neglected: it belongs to the town of Baëza.

There are very few lead mines in Andalusia. There is one in the district of Motril, in the kingdom of Granada; there is another also half a league from the hamlet of Real Monasterio, which is in a flinty soil; it is of a black lead fit for drawing, and is commonly known by the name of the English crayon, but the true name of it is Molybdena. Some others of much greater importance are near one another, in the neighbourhood of Linarez, about the middle of the kingdom of Jaen; there are six, distinguished by the names of Arrayanez, Allamillos, La Cruz, Los Pinos, Canincosa, and Palazuelos. They are rich, and are worked on account of the king; one particularly, which runs in common granite, is from one to sixty feet in breadth; the veins lie in beds of clay, sometimes the substance is found in pieces; these are red, and very rich *galena*, which often gives sixty or eighty pounds of lead in the quintal; only three ounces of silver are procured for every hundred pounds of ore. The produce of the last six mines is valued at about 12,000 quintals of lead every year: according

according to exact calculations, that of Arrayanez, produced in thirty years, that is to say, from 1749 to 1779, 14,000,000 arobas, or 3,500,000 quintals of ore, which is about 116,000 quintals a year; it should seem from this, that the produce of them has considerably diminished.

There are not so many copper and iron mines in Andalusia.

Those of copper are at Canada de los Concyos, two leagues from Cazalla, to the west, at Rio Tinto, and in the mountains near Cordova; there are two, one of green copper, and the other of blue. That at Canada has a vein which runs north and south, in quartz-pyrites. The copper of Rio Tinto is mixed with iron, which it is very difficult to extract; it has been lately worked by Swedes. It had been bored by the Romans; in the month of June 1762, when at the depth of sixty feet, the miners pierced into an ancient gallery, almost choaked with rubbish and dross; a Roman inscription was found, engraved upon a plate of the copper of the mine, about three feet long, and two feet wide.

In the kingdom of Jaen, there are many mines formed in the chalky mountains near Granada; the ore is in grains, like small shot. There are some in the white part of the Sierra Vermeja. A kind of Martiole blue is found in a very brilliant powder, near the village of Cullo, not far from Collero in Seville; it is at the depth of three or four feet, in a reddish soil, where a bloodstone is found; there is another iron mine, which has no magnetic power, a quarter of a league from Collero, and three leagues from Real Monasterio. Near the latter mine, are two others of loadstone, the one white, the other lead colour or grey; they are in a vein of chalk stone, situated at the top of an insulated hill, which is almost round.

There have been other mines of loadstone which have been worked; traces of them are visible near Moron, on the Sierra de Leyta, in the kingdom of Seville, under the vestiges of a gold mine, which has already been mentioned.

There

There is a mine of vitriol in the rocks, half a league from Cazalla, in the hill called Los Castanarez, in Seville. The stone is pyritous and ferruginous. Near Linares, and the river Gandial, is a mine of a semi-metal, which partakes of copper, and which is used to give china the green colour of the emerald. There is also near Anduxar, in the same province, a kind of clay, or white chalk, of which the jars called *bujaros* are made, which have already been mentioned.

The kingdom of Granada abounds in marbles, remarkable for their variety, the fineness of their grain and their beauty.

Many mountains are entirely formed of enormous blocks of marble, more or less valuable. That of Filabre, near Macael, three leagues from Almeria, which is a league in circumference, and about two hundred feet high, is one immense mass of pure white marble, from the base to the summit, which is almost flat, mixed with no other sort of stone, or any kind of earth. A mountain, about a league from Antequera, is entirely of flesh-coloured marble. Two hills also in the neighbourhood of Antequera, whose bases are washed by the stream which turns the mill of that town, are of blackish marble, and white, black, red, and blue gypsum, with beautiful veins. The mountain of Gador, near Almeria, is a rock of marble, whose height and extent of circumference is prodigious; an excellent lime is made of it. One of the hills which form the Sierra Nevada is very high, and composed entirely of veined marble.

There is also in this Sierra, two leagues from Granada, on the banks of the Xenil, and on a level with it, a quarry abounding in beautiful green serpentine stone, which will bear a very fine polish; the beautiful columns in the church of Salesas at Madrid, are composed of it.

In the kingdom of Granada, there are a variety of valuable alabasters of great beauty, particularly a magnificent kind, of the colour of purified wax, which was in great esteem among the Romans, who imported it at a great expence from the Levant. In a pit, two leagues west of Malaga, of which we shall presently

presently take notice, there is a calcareous kind of alabaster, which is very beautiful when it is worked. There is some, the ground of which is white, streaked with various colours, but when it is polished it is sometimes of a pleasing grey, mixed with light and shade, having white veins; sometimes merely a dark grey, with veins of an exquisite white. There are many sorts of alabaster round Granada, some of which are as white, brilliant, and transparent as the most beautiful white oriental cornelians, but they are very soft and easily dissolved by the feeblest acid: others are of different colours; there is one kind of a dirty white, and others half white and half the colour of wax, &c.

In Andalusia there are four fine quarries of jasper, one in the kingdom of Granada, the others in Seville. The first is at the cape of Gates, near the Torre de las Guardas, and contains white jasper veined with a beautiful red. The three others are at Rio-Tinto, Valverde, both six leagues from Aracena, and the third is in the territory of Cogullos, above Campo-frio, and one league from Aracena, in the archbishopric of Seville; these three are of the same quality, but that of Cogullos is the only famous one: it is a blood red jasper streaked with white, and is exceedingly hard, and very handsome: the beautiful columns of the tabernacle which ornaments the principal altar of the Escurial, are made of it. This last quarry is very valuable; it belonged to a private person named Pedro Berrugan, who resigned it to the king in 1581, for which he only received the moderate compensation of 800 ducats or 91l. 13s. 4d. sterling. This beautiful jasper was neglected and forgotten, and, at last even the place where it lies was not remembered. It was not discovered again until about the end of the reign of Charles III, after expensive searches which were made by order of government.

There are likewise a great variety of precious stones found in Andalusia, particularly in the kingdom of Granada; namely, emeralds, the mine of which near Moron, in the Sierra de Leyta, seems to be exhausted; it was at the bottom of the vestiges

vestiges of a gold mine which has been mentioned. White saphirs, a little opaque, and agates, in a number of places, at the cape of Gates. A bed of white cornelian, on a rock near the country of Nesse, at the cape of Gates. A great many amethists, in a vein of quartz, in a rock called Monte de las Guardas, near the port of Plata, in a precipice about twenty feet in depth. Granates, in a plain, half way on the road to Motril from Almeria; they are very abundant there, particularly in the bed of a ravin, formed by torrents, produced by rain, at the foot of a little hill, upon which a great number of them are likewise found. The emeralds are in the kingdom of Seville, all the others in that of Granada. It has been said for some time, that a pit in the mountain of Bujo, at the cape of Gates, contains a great many precious stones; but none could be discovered, notwithstanding the long and strict searches that were lately made there.

The kingdom of Granada contains several curious caves; there are two large and beautiful ones near Antequera, distinguished by the names of the Cueva de monga, and the Cueva de camorca; there is another also, hollowed in the mountain of Bujo, at the cape of Gates, and which opens upon the sea, by an aperture about twenty feet high and from fourteen to fifteen broad; it is entered in a boat, and is said, but without foundation, to contain many precious stones. There is another cave which opens upon a plain two leagues west of Malaga, at the bottom of a large bank of limestone, one hundred yards from the sea, and about five hundred from a chain of calcareous mountains: it is in this cave that the beautiful white and grey alabaster of which we have spoken is found.

There is a salt pit near Torre don Ximeno in Jaen, another near Antequera, and some near Cadiz, and Puerto Real; the last extend along the borders of the bay of Cadiz: there are sixty nine from the Pontal, to Puerto de Santa Maria: the salt is extracted by evaporation; five of these salt pits belong to the crown, the others to individuals who sell the salt to foreigners, principally to the Swedes, Danes, English, Dutch, and

and Portuguese; they are prohibited from selling it to the Spaniards, the sale being made to them on account of the crown, in the interior of the kingdom. The produce is valued at about 21,300,000 quintals a year.

The alternate flow and ebb of the water in the springs, which, by their junction form the river Guadalentin, above Guadix, in the kingdom of Granada, is clearly distinguished.

Mineral waters are neither various nor numerous in the the kingdoms of Seville, Cordova, and Jaen: but they are very abundant and diversified in that of Granada.

Cold Mineral waters are found at Chiclana, and at Colona, in the county of Nieble; at Coronada in the kingdom of Seville; at Gonzalvillo, and Cuervo, small districts of Cordova; at Liseda and Marmoles, in Jaen; at Piedra, a village three leagues from the town of Antequera and four from Archidona; in the district of Berchal, a village upon the mountains Alpuxarras; at Aldeire, where the spring is called Baranco de la Luna; in the district of Adra, a village also upon the Apuxarras, where there are a number of springs called Guardias Viejas; in the white part of the Sierra Vermeja, in a soil abounding with mines of iron in grains; lastly, at Brenabre: all the last are in the kingdom of Granada. Nothing is known of the nature and quality of any of these waters, as they have never been analysed. Those of the Sierra Vermeja appear to be chalybeate, and those of Berchal are gaseous.

No thermal spring has been discovered in the kingdoms of Cordova and Jaen; that of Seville has only one, which is at Bornos, two leagues from Arcos; it is called Fuente de la Sarna, or fountain of the itch; the water of it is hepatic, and is used either as a drink, or for a bath.

The kingdom of Granada is, on the contrary, extremely full of hot mineral waters. They are found, first, at Alhama le Seca, in the Taha de Marchina; the spring is in the village, the inhabitants of which drink it in common, having no other kind of water; it is not frequented; it has no baths: secondly,

in the red part of the Sierra Vermeja; these are sulphurous; they are not frequented; they have no baths: thirdly, at Hardales, near Malaga: fourthly, at Alhama de Granada; the spring is a quarter of a league from this village: fifthly, upon the side of a mountain a league and half from Almeria: sixthly, in the district of Balerma, a village upon the Alpuxarras, between Alcolea and Paterna: seventhly, in the district of Graena, and a little more than a mile from the town, a league and a half from Guadix: eighthly, at Alcolea, a village of Taha de Andarax, upon the Alpuxarras, and two leagues from Auxar, there are a number of springs upon the banks of the river which runs by this village, and near Cherin: ninthly, at the foot of the mountain of Javal Cohol, three leagues from Baza; this spring is very copious and very hot; it is called, as well as the baths, sometimes by the name of Javal Cohol, which it takes from the mountain at the foot of which it is found, and sometimes by that of Abenzalema, the name of a village which was near it, and which was destroyed by Ferdinand V, during the siege of Baza.

All these waters are sulphurous; some gaseous, others hepatic; they have all baths, except those in the red part of the Sierra Vermeja, and those of Alhama le Seca. They are all drunk, except those of Balerma, which are for bathing only, though the accommodations are very inconvenient.

Those of Alhama, in Granada, have two large basons, well arched, for bathing; they were very much used by the Moors, as we find that they were rented then for five hundred ducats a year. Those which are near Almeria, have three basons intended to bathe in; they are well vaulted and ornamented with a seat round them; one of the three, which is of modern construction, is built of marble; there are ten vapour baths. Those of Javal Cohol, or Abenzalema, have three basons for baths.

There is a spring situated two leagues from Antequera, in the kingdom of Granada, which was famous in the time of the

the Romans, and which still retains its reputation; great virtue is attributed to it in diseases of the bladder. It has already been mentioned.

In 1794 a work was published at Baëza, respecting the mineral waters of Andalusia, by Don Juan de Dios Ayudo.

The kingdom of Cordova produces the gall insect, more commonly known by the name of kermes. It is found upon the quercus ilex, and quercus coccifera.

The sea of Granada, upon the coast of Almeria, contains three species of purple fish: the common purple fish, a kind of small oyster, which remains almost always at the bottom: the Nautilus purple fish, which often swims at the surface of the water, by means of a membrance which serves it for a sail, and the purple fish without a shell: this is very valuable; it is a worm from four to five inches long, and an inch broad; the body of it is divided by little rings: it contains a liquid which produces the purple formerly so much esteemed in the east; the sea often throws them upon the beach.

There is a great difference of climate in the different parts of Andalusia. It is very cold in winter, and cool in summer upon the high mountains of Granada, less so on those of Cordova and Jaen, and still less upon those of Seville. It is temperate in the interior, especially at the foot of the mountains, and very hot, near the sea. Great heat is often felt in the interior, but it is tempered by the coolness of the waters, in those parts where they abound; as in the Vega de Granada; it is often sultry in the valleys, where the heat of the sun has great force, and the fresh air seldom penetrates; then the heat is concentered, the air is rarefied beyond measure, and is with difficulty renewed.

Rivers, fountains, and brooks, are abundant in Andalusia, and yet it is a country generally dry; the situation of the places will not always allow the waters to be turned to advantage; they are sometimes low, but still more frequently the inhabitants do not go sufficiently high for them, to be able to con-

duct them to the level wanted, or to command them sufficiently for watering the lands.

Andalusia is subject to a number of winds, particularly on the coast. There is one, among others, the effects of which are very pernicious; it blows from Africa and Egypt, and is known by the name of solano; it is a hot wind, and dries up the plants as soon as it touches them; it penetrates the body, and produces an effervescence of the fluids, a sudden rarefaction of the humours, but above all, it makes a dangerous impression on the head. It exalts, it kindles, and ferments the imagination, and drives many persons into a state, little better than madness: it is when this blows, that murders and assassinations are most frequent in the country. Sometimes too, when it is violent, and lasts for a long time, women are seen in a state of extraordinary fury. This dangerous wind is felt more sensibly and more strongly near the sea, than in the interior of the country, and the kingdoms of Seville and Granada are more exposed to it than the other parts of Andalusia.

Manners, Habits, Customs, Dress, and Language of the Andalusians. The Andalusians are the Gascons of Spain; they have neither the reserve of the Castilians, nor the cold haughtiness of the Aragonese, nor the petulance of the Biscayans, nor the roughness of the Catalonians, nor the nullity of the Valencians; they speak a great deal, and particularly of themselves, of their merit, their wealth, or of the valuable or pleasing things which they possess. They have a natural propensity to boasting; their conversation is full of it, the turn of their phrases, their air, their manners, their gestures, their customs, carry the stamp of it.

But these qualities are not equally conspicuous in every part of Andalusia; they are carried to the highest pitch in the kingdom of Seville; and higher nearer the sea than in the interior of the country. They are stronger, though less evident, in the kingdom of Granada, and become considerably weaker as we go farther into the kingdoms of Cordova and Jaen.

Their

Their country is a country of boasters, who distinguish themselves from others by their dress; who speak in a high and menacing tone; who bully when they are feared; who fawn when they fail to inspire terror; who are always dangerous when they can strike without risk: in a word, of that kind of coxcombs, known by the appellation of *majos*.

It is likewise the country of *majas*, or of women, who ought not, from the name, to be confounded with those beings that have been just mentioned; and who are as engaging as the *majos* are repulsive. A free air, an easy turn, a noble mien, a lively, attracting, animated eye, an arch and pleasing smile, a slender shape, neatness about the feet, a light and elegant dress, various graces, an harmonious voice, a natural softness, and expressive gestures, are the attributes of these women, as dangerous as they are lovely. Skilled in the art of seducing, they are acquainted with all the means of gaining their aim; they use it with address, and in general successfully; free in their expressions, and freer still in their behaviour, they allure, they attack, they invite, and it is very difficult to resist them.

Andalusia was formerly the refuge of the Gitanos, that dangerous and perfidious race, irreligious and dishonest vagabonds, without either faith or law, who were the curse of Spain, the disgrace of the nation which suffered them, the terror of the roads and of the country, and whom the government of Spain have at last proscribed by severe laws. They were countenanced by the Andalusian nobility, who were in their turn protected by them; these noblemen furnished them with asylums, where they could secret themselves with their booty from the pursuit of justice; but, in turn, they spared in their incursions their estates, property, persons, servants, and farmers; they were the agents of their vengeance, and afforded them as many satellites as there were Gitanos.

The Andalusians were formerly celebrated among the Romans for their dexterity; they have often shone upon the theatres of Rome; the young female Andalusians have very frequently attracted there the applause of the multitude by their

their wanton dances, have captivated the hearts of consuls, tribunes, prætors, senators, over whom they exercised the most absolute dominion. The modern Andalusian women are not degenerated; they are now the most agreeable and attractive dancers in Spain. They are in general well made, their complexion is delicate, their figure slender, their turn of countenance arch, their eyes black, lively, and full of fire; they are affected, but graceful. Those of the kingdom of Granada are the best made; and of those, the women of Malaga have the superiority.

They smoke more in Andalusia than in any country in Spain; the men have a strong passion for it, and many of the women indulge in it sometimes.

In the kingdom of Granada, the men think little of their excellent wines, they prefer the *mistela* and the *rosolis*, of which they drink to excess; yet it does not appear that they ever suffer any inconvenience from it.

In Andalusia there are three *maestranzas*, or associations of the nobility, the principal end of which appears to be, that of keeping up the ancient spirit of chivalry, but the true motive of which is a combination of pride and the love of pleasure. There is one of them at Granada, one at Seville, and one at Ronda, in the kingdom of Seville.

Andalusia has no language peculiar to itself. The people speak Castilian, but it is altered, corrupted, and very much disfigured by a prodigious mixture of Arabian words; it is still more so by a vicious pronunciation, which renders the language difficult to be understood; it is more gutteral than in the other parts of Spain. It is also more full and thick; a Castilian often finds it difficult to understand an Andalusian, though he speaks the same language as himself.

OF

THE KINGDOM OF MURCIA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE KINGDOM OF MURCIA.

The kingdom of Murcia, so called from the name of its present capital, is one of the smallest provinces of the Spanish monarchy. It is about thirty leagues from the north-west to the south-east, and twenty from the south-west to the north-east; it is situated between the kingdom of Valencia on the east, La Mancha and New Castile on the north and west, the kingdom of Jaen on the west, that of Granada on the west and south, and the Mediterranean sea on the east and south-east.

It is a dry, hilly country, almost covered with mountains, more or less elevated, separated sometimes by dry parched up valleys, and sometimes by others of more than common beauty and fertility.

It contains a bishopric, a cathedral chapter, a collegiate chapter, six commanderies of military orders, ninety-one convents, twelve hospitals, two asylums, eight colleges for the education of youth, two military governments, one of the three grand departments

departments of the royal navy, an intendant of the province, an intendant of the navy, six cities, sixty-four towns, seven villages, and some hamlets. It has two ports in the Mediterranean; that of Las Aguilas, which is unimportant, and that of Carthagena, which is the largest and the best in all Spain. Its principal towns are, besides Murcia, the capital and episcopal see, Carthagena, a fortified town, and formerly an episcopal see, Lorca, Chinchilla, Albacete, Villena, and Almanza.

This province is watered by two streams, the Benamor and the Guardavar; and by two rivers, the Segura and the Guadalentin; the last however scarcely merits the name of a brook.

The mountains of the kingdom of Murcia are almost all branches of the Montes-orospedani, one of which terminates in the Mediterranean, not far from the eminence of the town of Murcia. The most remarkable of these mountains are the Sierra of Penas, Pinosa, Losillas to the west, that of Chinchilla to the north-west, those of Montes Agudo, Covatellos, and Orihuela, to the north-east; the Sierra of Almanza to the north; that of El Cano to the south, of Espana to the south-west, and of Carascoy to the south-east. This last is the most considerable in extent and elevation; it is a continuation of the Sierra de Cazorla, which extends on the south into Jaen, on the north into Granada, and on the east into Murcia.

The kingdom of Murcia was the first part of Spain

Spain which was occupied by the Carthaginians: that people made it a favourite country; they formed their first colony in it, and built a town, which they intended should emulate Carthage, and with this design they called it New Carthage. Its foundation is ascribed to Asdrubal, in the year 562 of Rome. It was afterwards called Carthago Spartaria by the Romans, on account of the great quantity of spart, the Spanish broom, which grows about it. It is now called Carthagena. It was famous in former times, being then the metropolis of the country of the Contestani, which included Murcia, and extended into Valencia, as far as the mouth of the Jucar, the course of which was its limits. It was the chief place of a Roman province, which, from its name, was called Provincia Carthaginiensis; it retained the rank of a metropolis when bishoprics were established in Spain: it was an archiepiscopal see, the prelates of which long disputed the primacy with the archbishops of Toledo, but which was reduced to an episcopal see, and transferred to Murcia in 1291.

This country, taken by the Carthaginians from the Spaniards, was wrested from them by the Romans; the remains of a military road of the latter are still visible: it began at Campus Juncarius, Junguera in Catalonia, and passed by the town of Betulo, also in Catalonia, by Tarragona, Tortosa, Sagonte, now called Murviedro, Setavis, which was afterwards called Xativa, and now San Felipe; it there

ran

ran from the sea, and a little farther turned towards it, and came out at the Campus Spartarius, where Carthagena now stands: the people of the country call it the Road of Hercules. Being afterwards taken from the Romans by the Goths, this country formed a part of the monarchy which the latter established in Spain; but it was laid waste by the Vandals, who completely destroyed Carthagena; which was afterwards rebuilt on account of its harbour.

The revolution which has been mentioned in the account of Andalusia and in that of Valencia, in 552, brought all the maritime part of the kingdom of Murcia under the empire of the Greeks, who possessed it until 624; it then returned to the dominion of the Goths. But the Arabs, in their turn, seized this province; Abdelazis, the son of Musa, their general, conquered it in 714, according to the common opinion, and in 715, according to the treaty of peace, which will be presently cited. It appears that at that time a prince of the blood of the Goths governed the country of Murcia, perhaps in the name of the Gothic kings, or perhaps as his own principality; however that may be, this prince, who was worthy of a better fate, vigorously opposed the irruption of the Arabs; he defended his country with valour; the Arabs could scarcely penetrate into it, and were only able to possess it, on terms the most honourable to its prince, who every where impeded their progress; they were forced

forced to conclude a treaty with him, the original of which is still preserved in the library of the Escurial; it is written in Arabic, with a Latin translation. This state paper will serve to give an idea of the morality and loyalty of those times.

" *Articles of peace, covenanted and sworn between*
" *Abdelazis, the son of Musa, the son of*
" *Nassir; and Theodemir, prince of the*
" *Goths.*

" In the name of the merciful God, Abdelazis
" makes peace, and stipulates that Theodemir
" shall not be disturbed in his principality; that
" no attempt shall be made against his life, pro-
" perty, wives, children, religion, or the Christian
" churches; that Theodemir shall deliver up the
" seven towns of Orihuella, Valentola, Alicante,
" Mola (called now Mula), Vacasora, Bigerra
" (now called Bejar), Ora (or Opta), and Lorca;
" that he shall not succour nor receive the enemies
" of the Caliph, but that he shall communicate
" faithfully what he shall know of their hostile in-
" tentions; that he shall pay yearly, as well as
" every Goth of a noble family, one piece of gold,
" four measures of wheat, four of barley, a certain
" quantity of honey, oil, and vinegar, and that
" the tax upon each of their vassals shall be half
" of this contribution. Done the 4th of Regeb. in
" the 94th year of the Hegira, (which answers to
" the

" the 5th April, 715). Signed by four Mussul-
" mans as witnesses."

This treaty does not mention the town of Murcia, which proves that it was then of no importance; perhaps it was left to Theodemir, or perhaps it formed no part of the states of that prince, or had been previously conquered by the Arabs.—Since this event, we hear no more of Theodemir, of his states, and the Goths for whom he had stipulated. The fate of this prince is calculated to interest us, but history says no more of him; we are only told, that shortly after, all the country of Murcia was in the power of the Arabs. This country at first formed part of the states of the Caliphs of Damascus, and not long after, part of those of the Moorish kings of Cordova. A revolution having divided these, in 1144, Murcia was annexed to the new kingdom which the Agerenian Moors, the conquerors of the Almoravides, then founded, and of which they made Granada the capital; it returned, in 1221, under the dominion of the kings of Cordova, and at last formed a separate state. The kingdom of Cordova was dismembered in 1236. Several usurpers founded separate kingdoms, and Aben Hudiel was proclaimed king of Murcia; he fixed the capital of his new empire in the town of that name. Being attacked shortly after by the Moorish king of Granada, and not having the power of resistance, he offered, in 1240, to deliver up his states to Ferdinand II, king

of

of Castile and Leon: he retained the enjoyment of his crown during his life, with half his revenues, doing homage, and paying tribute to Ferdinand. The infant Don Alphonso then took possession of Murcia, in the name of his father, and garrisoned all the fortified towns; in 1244 he subdued the towns of Carthagena, Lorca, and Mula, which had refused to acknowledge the sovereignty of the kings of Castile. Aben Hudiel afterwards regretting his former independence, wished to throw off the yoke which he had imposed upon himself, and in 1264 he entered into a league with the king of Granada; but Alphonso X*, who had succeeded his father Ferdinand II, on the throne of Castile, attacked him, and was upon the point of being defeated, when James the First, king of Aragon†, came to his assistance; this prince entered Murcia at the head of his troops; he seized a convoy of two thousand beasts of burthen, laid siege to the capital in January 1265, forced that town to surrender in a month, and restored it to the king of Castile. Alphonso deprived Aben Hudiel of the title and honours of king, and gave them to Ma-

* Surnamed the Astrologer; he made some astronomical tables, which cost him 400,000 crowns. He found such great defects in the arrangement of the parts of the universe, that he often said, that if he had been at the creation of the world, he would not have concurred in opinion with the creator.

† Surnamed the Just.

homad,

homad, with a third of the revenues of the crown. This Moor was but a shadow of a king, and the last who held that title in Murcia. Since that time, this country has always formed part of the crown of Castile, except for an interval of almost two years, when it was taken from it by James II, king of Aragon, for the children of La Cerda, whose party this prince maintained: but this conquest, made in 1302, fell again under the power of the Castilian monarchs in 1304, being ceded to them by James, in exchange for the town of Alicant, and some places near it, which were made over to him by Ferdinand the Fourth, surnamed the Justicier.

Murcia has been from that time under the same government and laws as the other provinces of the crown of Castile.

Road from the frontier of La Mancha to Murcia, 25 leagues *.

A Venta one league and three-quarters from Roda to	
La Gineta, (a village)	$\frac{1}{4}$ leagues.
Albacete, (a town)	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Pozo de la Canada, (a village)	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Venta Nueva,	$1\frac{1}{4}$
Albalana, (a village)	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Jumilla, (a town)	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Caserias de la Pinosa, (scattered houses)	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Venta Roman	$\frac{3}{4}$

* Road from Madrid and Aranjuez to Murcia and Carthagena.

Venta

Venta de la Rembla,	3½ leagues.
Molina, (a town)	2
Torre de Espinardo, (a village)	1½
Murcia, (a town)	½

On leaving La Mancha, by the Venta of the Roda, we enter Murcia, and three quarters of an hour after arrive at Gineta, the first village in this province; it is a little settlement of the Partido of Chinchilla; every thing in it has a miserable appearance: many of the houses are in ruins, and most of them are only one story high; the Posada of it is spacious, new, and well built, but every thing else is bad; there is absolutely nothing eatable to be found in the village. The church has two gates of free-stone, adorned with fluted columns of the Corinthian order, and with ornaments in bass-relief; the steeple is handsomely built. On leaving this village the country is dry, parched, and without trees, and very frequently without cultivation. The mountains of Chinchilla appear before us; about a league and a half farther, we come to a tavern, and shortly after discover Albacete, in the environs of which there are some scattered trees, it is true, but which we look at with pleasure, owing to the bareness of the country through which we have travelled. We arrive at this town by a long avenue, the trees of which are not attended to, and are almost perishing.

Albacete, formerly called Cetede, is a small town, very pleasantly situated in a vast plain: it

is

is supposed, but without any certainty, that it was built by the people who came out of Cilicia. It is governed by a corregidor: it has a parish church, three convents of monks, two of nuns, and a hospital; it had a convent of Antonins, which was suppressed in 1791. The population of this town is about seven or eight thousand inhabitants. It has sixty two streets, thirty of which are principal ones; those by which we enter the town are full of mud and deep ruts, but the others are kept in better repair. It must formerly have been inhabited by people of considerable rank, if we may judge from the great number of escutcheons with which the houses are adorned. Some of the buildings are distinguished by their decorations: in the square of the Hotel-de-Ville there is a house ornamented with beautiful columns of the Corinthian order; another, in the street which leads to this place, has pilasters, a cornice, a frieze, a corona, and bass-reliefs which have some merit. Two other houses, situated in the Calle Mayor, deserve to be remarked. Their fronts, built with white stone, have two tiers of architecture of the Corinthian order, and are ornamented with columns, pilasters, friezes, bass-reliefs, cariatides, busts, vases, and balconies.

The portal of the church of the Franciscan Observantins is remarkable for the inscription: *Christi signifero Francisco sacrum;* which is similar to that which the Cordeliers of Reims placed

placed upon the gate of their church: *Christo et Francisco, utrique crucifixo sacrum.* The Theologians of the university of Paris passed a censure on the latter inscription, either on the account of the assimilation which is made in it of Saint Francis to Jesus Christ, or because churches can be dedicated to God alone, whilst they are merely under the invocation of the saints; in consequence of which it was suppressed.

In Albacete, they make a great deal of cutlery; there are twenty eight masters, who each make six or seven thousand articles of all kinds every year.

The produce of the land affords the greatest and most certain resources to this town: it yields a great harvest of wheat, barley, fruit, wine, and saffron. The wine which is annually made amounts to upwards of 80,000 arobas, or 20,000 quintals, and the saffron is valued at from 40 to 50,000 pezos, that is to say, from 6250l. to 7500l. sterling. There is a fair held annually in this town, in the month of September, which is famous round the country, intended principally for the sale of cattle. This town was the birth-place of the theologist Dida, Alarcon, and of the poet Antonio de Agraz. The posada of it is large and handsome, newly built, and well laid out. There are generally plenty of provisions to be found here: very little attention is paid to travellers, and the beds are bad.

On leaving Albacete, we turn to the right, and

continue on the same plain, which is here stony, partly cultivated and partly fallow; the mountains and castle of Chinchilla are seen on the left; and the Sierra Depenas on the right. The road here is no longer the new and beautiful one, on which we set out from Madrid, and of which we have already spoken; we quit it at Albacete, whence it goes on to Valencia; that which we follow to go to Murcia, is broad and smooth, but without being indebted to art for any thing.

After having travelled a league and a half, we begin to enter the mountains, which are not very high; we ascend them by a gentle slope and a good road, round which all is waste and bare. We arrive at a tolerably large valley, a great part of which is pasture land, a great part is sown with grain, and the rest is uncultivated. We here find some farms. The road soon after becomes nothing but bare rock. We proceed to Pozo de la Canada, a middling sized village, situated at the end of the valley; the houses are built of mud, yet they have a very good appearance; the approach to it is embellished by a clump of olive trees which stands near it: it is three leagues and a half from Albacete. In the course of a quarter of an hour we leave the valley. The prospect changes for the worse as well as the road; we enter into a narrow passage between chalky mountains, where nothing is to be seen but parched up, gloomy, or frightful objects; there are a great many turnings, which follow

follow one another in quick succession; the ascent is uneven and steep; the road is of marble; there are nothing but ruts and holes, formed by the wheels and by the feet of horses; these and the strongest mules can scarcely get through them: the traveller is every moment expecting to be overturned in his carriage, in a place where he can look for no assistance, but that which chance may afford him. We get through this passage indeed in about ten minutes, but it is so horrible that the people have given it the name of Puerto del Infierno. The beauty of the valley into which we enter, makes up for the inconvenience which we have experienced: a careful and varied cultivation is seen on all sides; the grains spring up in emulation of each other under the laborious hands of the farmer. Vast and rich pastures, extending to a great distance, form immense carpets of verdant moss; various kinds of fruit trees and the green oak are every where dispersed and multiplied without confusion; woody mountains bound the prospect, and form around it a circle of varied verdure; scattered houses give a lively air to it; the coup d'œil is delightful, particularly when we have travelled over the dreadful solitude which precedes it.

After half a league, the plantations close and form a thick wood, through which we travel for half an hour, when the trees begin to be more open, the wood disappears, cultivation recommences,

and we arrive soon after at Venta Nueva, truly the worst of Ventas; every thing is wanting; the apartments are dirty, and out of repair. The valley is here uncultivated and surrounded with wood; we leave it in twenty minutes, and, after ascending and descending, we enter another valley, part of which is cultivated, and part covered with trees, with three or four labourers' cottages. A vast curtain presents itself directly before us, formed by a deep and thick wood of evergreen oaks; we travel by the side of this for some time, and on leaving it, go through a wood of pines, over a rough road of hard rock. We then pass into another valley, crossing the breadth of it: it is straight, but long, bordered with high mountains, which have trees on one side, but are completely bare on the other. There is nothing worth relating in the tedious country through which we travel after this; we see only parched up mountains, rocks one over another, stones scattered on all sides, through which we discover the earth, dried up, calcined, and whitened by the violent heat of the burning sun: the refreshing dew never moistens this wild place; the valleys are all sterile, the hills covered with fallen rocks, suspended in their fall by others which had rolled down before them; the whole presents an image of chaos, and of a country which seems to have been proscribed. No human creatures are to be seen but those whom necessity compels to go through it; the most solitary animals will not remain

main in it, and the very birds fly from this sojourn of sadness; the mournful raven is the only one that is to be found here, and its presence increases the melancholy and tediousness it creates. We are about two hours in this solitude, and do not recover from the melancholy which it inspires till again revived by breathing the pure air. The mountains suddenly recede, the prospect widens, the heavens expand and appear more beautiful, and traces of the hand of man cheer the mind: the cultivation of corn and olives is quickened by very small streams of water, that produce a fertility, which is here considered as a wonder, but which a moment after disappears. We soon meet again with a soil left to itself, covered with stones and brambles, or useless shrubs: condemned to sterility, this ungrateful land rejects the hand of the farmer; when dry it is nothing but dust, and when wet merely mud. Yet, perhaps, it is not impossible to make something of it: it might be dunged into a consistence, and trees, by protecting it from the heat of the sun, might render it less dry; perhaps a good hydroscope, if there be such a thing, might discover copious springs, to second the labours of the cultivator.

After travelling over this disagreeable soil for the space of an hour, we arrive at the Venta de Albatana, which is a very bad one. We immediately after pass by Albatana, a village, consisting of about two hundred and sixty inhabitants; a miserable place,

place, built upon a rock, affording however a proof of what industry may effect upon a poor soil; for it is similar to that which has just been mentioned; Yet the perseverance of the inhabitants has rendered it fertile. Corn, hemp, French beans, some little gardens, and fruit trees, are to be seen round this village. This fertility is produced by hard labour, manure, and the water of a little brook.

On leaving Albatana, cultivation, though languid enough, is still carried on in the immense valley through which we travel; we should take it for a large plain, if the appearance of the mountains which surround it did not recall to our minds the limits of it. After going a league, we leave it by a deep and disagreeable narrow passage, and go through other small and gloomy valleys, and some likewise of great extent, which take an hour and a half to cross. It is cultivated in almost every part, and, though without trees, would have an agreeable appearance, if the sameness it exhibits did not fatigue the eye. Towards the end the prospect becomes cheerful and picturesque; scattered houses, a superior cultivation, verdant fields, a good number of trees, particularly olive, form a new picture; the verdure which covers the sides of the hills adds to the beauty of the prospect, and a brook of cool running water enlivens and augments our pleasure. We have at the same time a view of the side of a steep mountain, upon which are seen the ruins

ruins of the ancient castle of Jumilla; this view contrasts admirably well with the richness and gaiety of the surrounding country. Having again met with some vineyards and olive trees, we turn round the mountain upon which stands the ancient castle of Jumilla; on the right we see a heap of stones, the remains of the ruins of that fortress, and on the left, a superb prospect. We arrive immedidiately after at Jumilla, three leagues and a quarter distant from Albatana.

Jumilla is a small town, containing about eight thousand inhabitants, founded, it is said, by a colony of Aragonese. It is situated at the entrance of a large and magnificent valley, at the foot of the mountain on which its old castle stands. The streets are tolerably handsome, straight, very long, and sufficiently large; they only want to be paved; the houses make no show, but have all an air of cleanness. It has a hospital under the title of the Holy Ghost, a convent of Franciscan monks, and two parish churches, one of which is served by a parish minister, and thirty priests.

Public Edifices. The parish church of Saint James is situated in the most elevated part of the town; it is approached by a winding and narrow street, and by a steep ascent. It has a portal of four fluted columns, coupled with and resting on an equal number of pilasters. Its front is not completed, though it has been begun since 1575. The church is long and narrow, decorated with heavy ornaments; but it has a chapel, that of the Communion, which is of modern construction, and tolerably handsome; it is divided into three square parts, with pilasters

pilasters, a projecting cornice, a light well-distributed dome, terminating in a turret over the middle of it. The sacristy also has been lately built; it is a beautiful room, nearly square, ornamented with pilasters, medallions, and bass-reliefs, the whole of white stone.

The parish church of Saint Saviour is modern, and has only been finished about twenty years. Its front has two stories of architecture, ornamented with pilasters of the Corinthian and Doric orders; upon the two sides of the second story, there are two square pavillions, in the form of towers, adorned with Corinthian pilasters; they terminate in leaden steeples, supporting gilt globes, surmounted with an iron cross, handsomely wrought. The gate is in the middle of the lower story: it is formed by four fluted columns, resting on an equal number of similar pilasters; they support a cornice, which overhangs an escutcheon, containing a chalice, surmounted by a host in bass-relief, and upon which is a figure of the Good Shepherd. There is on this front a raised terrace, which turns round the two sides of the edifice, and forms a grand flight of steps; it is ascended by two lateral flights, of six steps each. This front, the bottom of which is brick, and the ornaments of white stone, is handsome, and executed according to the rules of architecture. It wants a square, which would render the display of it more easy. The church has only a nave, which is small, but regular, fifty-three feet nine inches long by twenty-five wide; it is adorned with large hollow pilasters, with capitals of the Doric order, and a jutting cornice; but square windows, with iron balconies, placed over the chapels, and opening into the nave, injure the majesty of the place. A dome with windows, ornamented with coupled pilasters, rises above the casement. This church contains a number of pictures, by Francisco Folch, of Cordova, which were painted in 1785; they merit little attention; some of those of the principal altar are rather more valuable.

The Castle, which commands this town, is in ruins; we can still observe considerable traces of its bounds; such as the walls,

walls, small square towers, and in the middle of it a large mass, which has the appearance of a round tower, raised upon a square building. Without going up to the castle, we can discern, at Jumilla, that this tower or interior fortress is preserved entire, but the exterior fortifications are almost completely destroyed; and the castle contains within it a chapel, dedicated to our Lady of Grace, which is inhabited by a hermit.

On leaving Jumilla, we cross the valley at the entrance of which it is situated. Almost every part of it is equally beautiful; fields, vineyards, trees sometimes scattered over the land, and sometimes united in clumps, separate houses, labourers at work, and a delightful verdure which covers the surrounding hills, give to this place an appearance of activity not before perceived since we quitted Aranjuez. We travel through this for a league, but the traveller must prepare to suffer a little in return for his pleasure. We arrive at an uneven, steep, rugged, narrow ascent, often upon the bare rock, where it is very difficult for the horses to go on, and where in some places they cannot go two abreast. This laborious ascent continues for twenty-five minutes, and conducts us to two very narrow passages, not far from each other, and which look like sepulchral entrances; the place is called the Puerto de la Pinosa. If two carriages should meet in it, they can neither go backward nor forward. We then descend for about seven minutes, and enter into a large valley of a league in length; we find here fields scarcely cultivated, some vines, olive,

olive, and other trees, and some insulated houses, which are called Las Caserias de la Pinosa. We then pass to another considerable valley, the beginning of which is cultivated a little. After three quarters of an hour we come to the Venta Roman, three leagues from Jumilla. The accommodations of this Venta are extremely bad. The valley here takes a disagreeable appearance; it is uncultivated, without trees, and covered with stones; it bears every where traces of desolation, and this lasts for two leagues. New mountains to be passed present themselves; we arrive at a gentle ascent in the course of thirty-five minutes, and the road at first is not very bad, but suddenly it becomes nothing but hard rock, sometimes smooth and slippery, sometimes broken and uneven, replete with dangers to the horses and to the traveller: the ascents and descents succeed each other rapidly; they are steep and rough, and take twenty-five minutes to go over, from Tour de Losillas to Puerto de Losillas. Here we scarcely pass down a gentle descent, when we meet with new descents and ascents, steep pinches, a number of straits, and mountains which on every side present a frightful aspect; these succeed each other for an hour, till we arrive at the Venta de la Rambla, which is three leagues and a half from the Venta de Roman. There the country becomes more level and open, and we soon perceive, to the right, beautiful plantations of trees, which extend as far as the banks of the Segura,

and

and turning, go through the valley, watered by that river, and continue to the beautiful Huerta of Murcia. We see also before us, on the right, several houses surrounded by a great number of thick clumps of trees. But on the left, every thing is barren, calcined, and covered with hillocks of a dusty white earth. The road, having again ascended, at length becomes level, and we soon perceive at a distance the continuation of the same plantations, through which we discover the village of Zenti, which we leave very far to the right; shortly after immense plantations of olive and mulberry trees are seen on the grounds; we approach them, travel through them, and keep by the side of them for some time; there are a number of scattered houses to be seen in the midst of this immense multitude of trees. We catch another and a more distinct view of the village of Zenti, the houses and churches of which can be easily distinguished through the leaves, and sometimes above the tops of the trees. Thus we arrive at Molina, after leaving in a hollow on the right, almost half way, the village of Lorqui, containing about five hundred inhabitants, situated upon the left bank of the Segura. It was at this place, not far from Lorqui, that two bloody battles were fought, in the year 542 of Rome, between the Carthaginians and the Romans, in which the two Scipios, Cneïus and Publius, were defeated and killed, and the Roman army almost all destroyed, by the victory which

which Massinissa, general of the Carthaginians, obtained.

Molina is a small town, containing about 3,000 inhabitants. It is placed in a pleasant and cheerful situation, on the borders of a valley, which is watered by the Segura. It is surrounded by considerable plantations of all kinds of trees, and fertile and rich gardens, which are embellished with olives, oranges, lemons, pomegranates, and palms, which seem to dispute the possession of the earth. The streets are large, straight, airy, and pleasant.

Edifices. The parish church is situated in a square place; its front, which is of free stone, is formed by two stories of architecture, each consisting of four pilasters of the Corinthian order; the second is terminated by a triangular attic, surmounted by an iron cross; a square tower, built with bricks, rises on the right side; but it is loaded with ornaments in the form of pilasters, disposed in a disproportioned and ridiculous manner, which very much injures the front. The church has a nave and two aisles; it is ornamented with Doric pilasters, and a dome with windows; it is a handsome piece of architecture; but the bad blue and yellow paintings with which the pilasters, the capitals, the friezes, and the cornices, are covered, give it a very ugly appearance.

On leaving this town, we enjoy a charming view, which the gardens and beautiful country adjoining it present on the right. We again enter the mountains, and perceive through vistas the beautiful valley which is watered by the Segura; these mountains soon shut out the prospect entirely.

tirely, and we only see their parched and dry sides; but the road is smooth and bowling. In half an hour we suddenly discover the town of Murcia, which disappears, and appears again soon after. We then leave the mountains, the country opens, and appears covered with olive trees. We have a view of the beautiful Huerta of Murcia, which extends as we advance. On entering it we are struck with the richness of the soil; the land is well cultivated; a fertilizing stream runs through it; the trees are numerous, and there are forests of mulberry trees: we cross it by a delightful road, raised like a causeway. This great beauty of the country injures the picturesque view of the town, which is concealed behind the multitude of trees, and we arrive there without having been able to see the smallest part of it. We proceed to the Torre de Espinardo, leaving, on the right, the village of Espinardo, which has a population of about 1500 inhabitants, and on the left, that of Monte Agudo, which will be noticed hereafter. Half an hour after we arrive at Murcia, which we enter by the Castile gate.

Murcia is the capital town of the kingdom or province of the same name. It cannot be of very great antiquity; probably it did not exist either in the time of the Carthaginians, or the Romans, as no mention is made of it by either of those people, though the country in which it is situated, was a long time the theatre of their wars.

Carthagena

Carthagena was then the only town of importance in this province. If Murcia existed, there is reason to believe that it was only a village of a middling population. It is heard of, for the first time, about the end of the dominion of the Gothic kings in Spain, under whom it is said that it was called D'Orcola. It does not appear in history until the beginning of the eighth century, when it underwent the fate of the other towns of Spain, invaded by the Moors: it was besieged and taken in 714 by Abdelazis; after which it was subject to the Caliphs of Damascus, then to those of Bagdad; it passed in 756 under the government of the Moors Almohades, new sovereigns of Spain, who took the title of Caliphs of Cordova. In 1144 it was dependant on the kingdom of Granada; it returned in 1221 to the kings of Cordova; and at last, in 1236, it became the capital of a separate kingdom *. On the thirteenth of February, in 1265, Alphonso X, king of Castile, having made himself master of it, fortified it, and peopled it with Catalonians, Aragonese, and principally with French. The best and most ancient families of this town, of which there are several still existing, have always acknowledged a French origin; their names equally prove it.

The town of Murcia is celebrated in history for

* See what has been said above upon the province in general.

two

two signal events. The first it owes to its governor, the second to its bishop. When it was besieged, in 714, by Abdelazis, a Moorish general, it was in want of men to defend it. The governor, although he had been defeated in a sortie, did not lose courage; he dressed the women like men, placed them upon the ramparts, and obtained by that means an honourable capitulation. Ten centuries after, in 1706, during the wars for the succession, this town held out for Philip V; but it was open and defenceless, and the troops of the archduke advanced to take possession of it. Louis de Belluga, who was bishop of it, assembled the people of the neighbourhood, armed them, put himself at their head, and prepared to defend it; but believing himself still too weak to resist a large army, he opened the reservoirs, cut the canals, turned the river Segura, to surround the town by the inundation of the country. The troops of the archduke could not advance; the prelate immediately marched at the head of his little army, seized Orihuela, and laid siege to Carthagena, which he compelled to surrender on the fifth day: he was afterwards made a cardinal.

Situation. This town is situated upon level ground, in a large and beautiful valley, watered by the Segura. It is upon the left bank of that river, in the midst of a magnificent country, of which the mulberry trees form the principal ornament; this country is completely open on the west, south, and north, but bounded on the east, at the distance of a league, by

by lofty, steep, and bare mountains of an unpleasant appearance.

Population. The population of this town, is computed at 60,000 souls; but in that number are included those who inhabit the Huerta, that is to say, the neighbouring country which is dependant upon it; these may therefore be computed at very near a third of it.

Clergy. Murcia is the see of a bishop suffragan to the archbishop of Toledo, which was at first established at Carthagena, became extinct under the Moors, was re-established after they were conquered in 1265, and then removed to Murcia in 1291, where it has ever since remained. Its diocese includes almost the whole present kingdom of Murcia: it contains one cathedral chapter, in the city of Murcia, one collegiate chapter, in the town of Lorca, eleven rectories and vicarages, and one hundred and eighty parishes. The bishop enjoys a revenue of about 200,000 ducats, equal to 22,916l. 13s. 4d. sterling.

The cathedral chapter is composed of ten dignitaries, fourteen canons, twelve prebendaries, twelve demi-prebendaries, and a great many other priests and ministers, employed in divine service. The revenue of the dignitaries is from sixty and eighty to 120,000 reals, or from 625l. and 833l. 6s. to 1250l. sterling; that of the prebendaries 20,000 reals, or 208l. 6s. 8d. and that of the demi-prebendaries 8000 reals, or 83l. 6s. 9. The dress of the canons is very simple, consisting of a black mantle over the surplice.

The town of Murcia has eleven parishes, ten convents of monks, an oratory, nine convents of nuns, three colleges or seminaries for the secular clergy, a hospital for the sick, kept up by the monks of charity, a hospital for orphans, and an asylum of mercy or penitentiary house.

Administration. This town is of the military government of Valencia; it has generally a garrison of two squadrons of cavalry; it is the residence of an intendant of the province, and

and the chief place of an intendant of the whole kingdom of Murcia. Money was coined here in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. It was governed by assistants, who were afterwards succeeded by corregidors; and it is at present the principal residence of a criminal judge. It has an alcade mayor, a corporation composed of thirty regidors, and an accountant-general.

Public Establishments. A custom house, a board of public economy, two public libraries, a curing house for saltpetre, gunpowder mills, some silk manufactories, and a considerable establishment for spinning and twisting silk.

Extent. The town of Murcia was formerly a fortified town; it was surrounded by high walls, strengthened at intervals by towers, and entered by thirteen gates: some remains of them are still to be seen. Its compass was then infinitely smaller than it is at present. It is no longer walled, and is open on all sides to the country, but there are four gates remaining. The town now extends to the other side of the river, where it has very pleasant suburbs, and with which it communicates by a bridge of two arches. This bridge is handsome, and well built, but disfigured by a number of bad statues. The streets are narrow, winding, irregular, badly divided, badly paved, and laid out without order; they are inconvenient, by perpetually crossing one another, and forming a number of alleys, the sharp angles of which continually project and recede; there are scarcely three or four streets where two coaches can pass. The largest and most regular is that of the Traperia, which leads from the cathedral to the market, or St. Dominic's square. This town is ill built; there are very few houses that have a handsome appearance, and none of them deserves particular attention. Many are very ancient, loaded with ornaments of architecture and sculpture without any taste: pilasters, columns, figures of men, animals, savages, mermaids, cariatides, and satyrs, often of a colossal size and badly executed. There are a great number of escutcheons: some are to be seen above the doors

of most of the houses, all of which have walks before them, that would be pleasing to the eye if they were adorned with a few shrubs.

Squares. There are a number of squares; that of Santa-Olalla has nothing remarkable in it; that of Del Esparto is very long; it seems rather a large street than a square; that of Santo-Domingo is large and square; it would be pleasant if it had handsomer houses. The square of Santa-Maria is an oblong; it is ornamented on one side by the front of the cathedral, on the other by that of the episcopal palace: Los Toros, or the Bulls, a square used for baiting those animals, is at the beginning of the suburbs on the other side of the river, that is to say, out of the town; it is large and square, with houses on every side, the uniformity and regularity of which are a great embellishment to it. It opens on one side upon a bridge, and on the other upon the promenade, called the Botanic Garden. There are a number of other squares, but they are very small ones.

Public Edifices. The public edifices of Murcia consist of some churches, which, without having any thing particularly interesting, are still worthy of notice.

The parish church of Santa-Olalla, and that of Saint John, are built upon the same plan, with the same architecture and ornaments, such as Doric and Corinthian pilasters and domes well formed, and with a number of windows in them. Both of them have a graceful appearance, but the latter is the larger and less elegant of the two.

The church of Saint Juan de Dios, or of Charity, is only a chapel made out of a little oval room, ornamented with sixteen Corinthian pilasters coupled two and two, before which are placed six statues of saints as large as life, in white marble; it is surmounted with a dome, supported by sixteen pilasters coupled, and ornamented with paintings in medallions, indifferently executed. All these ornaments are of plaister.

The convent of Saint Francis has nothing remarkable but the front of its church, which is of freestone, having two tiers

tiers of orders: the first, of two Corinthian columns standing in large recedures, which are covered with bass-reliefs: the second, of four Ionic pilasters; its frieze is decorated with little figures of infants, and other ornaments in bass-relief. This front is in an angle at the extremity of a large building; a situation which takes away all its beauty.

The parish church of Saint Peter has a small front, with two stories of architecture, each having four pilasters, the first Doric, the other Ionic; the whole is of freestone. The interior is small, well disposed, and ornamented with Ionic pilasters, but the appearance of the whole is spoiled by a number of paintings and a quantity of gilding, distributed without taste. The principal altar has a large picture of Saint Peter.

The convent of Saint Dominic is situated on part of the ground which was occupied by the palace and gardens of Seguir, the Moorish king of Murcia; the ground was divided between the monks of that order and the Franciscan nuns. The front of the church of this convent is ridiculous from its want of proportion, its irregularity, and the confused and unskilful mixture of all the orders of architecture. Its interior has a body and two aisles, separated on each side by six arches, and as many large Corinthian pilasters: the principal altar has some pictures which are not destitute of merit.

The cathedral church is situated in the same square as the episcopal palace. Its front is partly of freestone, and partly of different kinds of marble: it has two stories of architecture of the Corinthian order. The first is composed of eight fluted columns, supported by very high pedestals of blue marble, covered with sculpture in bass-relief, and placed before an equal number of pilasters, most of which are covered with trophies in bass-relief; a similar pilaster terminates it on each side; this first story is surmounted by frieze, enriched with ornaments, and flanked on each side with a low turret, united to the principal body by a short balustrade. The second story rises over the middle of the first; it has six columns, and similar decorations; it is also surmounted by a lofty corona, with the Holy

Virgin in bass-relief in the middle; and above, a figure of Christ embracing the cross. Thirty-two statues are distributed in different parts of this front. The portal is also of the Corinthian order; it has on each side a column of red and blue marble, before a pilaster, and on a high pedestal of blue marble: this is ornamented with small figures of angels. It is surmounted by a group, consisting of the Holy Virgin surrounded by angels. The two side-gates have each two small columns, which support two statues of saints.

This front, and these portals, which were erected in the eighteenth century, are executed with a great deal of care. The pieces which compose them, taken separately, are all finely worked; yet the whole presents a confused mass, deficient in taste and proportion. Another defect which this front has, is, that it is not parallel with the relative direction of the square in which it is situated. Besides which, the episcopal palace half hides it, so that on entering the square, the whole is not to be seen at once.

The cathedral has two other portals on the sides. One of them is ancient; it is in the form of a large round gate, with some bad statues and Gothic ornaments; it is of freestone. The other was built in the last century; it is of a white stone, and executed in a better taste: it has three stories of architecture; the first of which has six Doric pilasters, with ornaments in bass-relief upon the arches and the frieze; the cornice is carved, and supports a balustrade, behind which rises the second story: this consists of four small pilasters, covered with bass-reliefs, which contain between them large pannels, decorated in a similar manner: on each side of it there is a large fluted column of the composite order, surmounted by an urn, which reaches almost up to the top of the third story. This last occupies the middle of the front; it consists of two Corinthian pilasters, between which is a figure of the Virgin in bass-relief; lastly, there is a square urn placed on each side, surmounted by a cross. In the last mentioned portal and façade, there is a great deal of work. On one side there is a square tower

tower which serves for a belfry; it was begun in 1521, and is not yet finished; the difference of building at different times is observable in it. This tower is composed of six different parts, one above the other, each having pilasters, and at top it terminates in an octagon, which gives it a pleasing and majestic elevation. There are no steps in it, but it is ascended by a very gentle spiral slope, which tires, notwithstanding, from the constant winding.

The building of the church was begun towards the end of the fourteenth century; it is in general massive, and the interior spacious. It has a body and two aisles, separated by enormous pillars, composed of clusters of slender columns huddled together without grace. The aisles are narrower and lower than the body: they wind round, and meet behind the chief altar. The choir and sanctuary are situated in the body of the church, where they leave no space free but that which forms the cross, and a similar space at the entrance of the church. The choir, on the outside, is surrounded with little Gothic chapels; it has no ornament within. The sanctuary likewise has no ornaments: there is nothing remarkable in it, except a silver urn, four feet long, and two feet six inches wide, placed at the right side of the altar, containing the remains of the sainted bishops Fulgentius and Florentinus; and a tomb on the left, in which are enclosed the bowels of Alfonso X, king of Castile, who was dethroned by his son Sancho, after a reign of thirty-two years.

The first thing we see on entering this church, is a dome over the space between the door and the choir. The part under this dome is extremely decorated, but with great confusion. The front of the choir, which the Spaniards call *Trascoro*, is hid by a chapel to the Virgin; it is a heavy mass, clumsily done in freestone; it is mixed with coatings of coloured marbles, but they are distributed without taste. The walls of the church are covered with paintings, with inscriptions telling the names, crimes, and punishments of the persons condemned by the inquisition.

They

They highly extol a chapel called *De los Velez:* it is of an octagon form, tolerably spacious, and has a lofty vault. The decoration consists of a multitude of little Gothic columns, with ornaments of the same style; but it is all too much crowded, though the execution is delicate. In fine, the cathedral is very far from possessing the magnificence it ought to have; it is gloomy, naked, and neglected. Its principal altar is a confused mass in wood, where the eye with difficulty distinguishes any objects.

In the treasure belonging to the cathedral there is a holy golden pyx, weighing five pounds, enriched with diamonds of great value; and a tabernacle for carrying the holy sacrament. This is of silver, and weighs thirteen hundred marks; it holds another *custodia* of gold, which weighs eight pounds four ounces: there are six hundred emeralds in it, and a great many diamonds.

Promenades. There are four in Murcia: the Arsenal, the Botanic Garden, the Alameda, and the Malecon.

The Arsenal was a low place on the river side, full of sand, whence it acquired the name it has: it was filled up, raised, and secured from inundation by a strong wall. It is now a very large oblong irregular area, forming a terrace on the water, entirely open to the south-east, where it looks on the river, which it commands; on all the other sides it is almost filled up with houses of a poor appearance, excepting a part of the back of the episcopal palace, which is a certain decoration to it, and of the house of the Ayuntamiento, or Town-house, which, though not handsome, displays an extensive front, and an agreeable regularity. This area is situated at the descent from the bridge, behind the inquisition, and the episcopal palace; it has neither trees nor fountains; it is however frequented in summer after sun-set; but the company go there rather to sit than to walk; a few carriages drive round the area.

The Botanic Garden is out of the town, on the other side of the river, behind the Plaza del Toros, and on the Carthagena road

road. It is an oblong space, of about four hundred feet. It is enclosed by a wall, low enough to sit down upon: besides which, there are stone seats. There are a number of low trees in it, divided into seven little walks, which widen at intervals, and form three little circular openings, encircled by shrubs and benches, with a large cluster of rose-trees in the middle. This garden might be made agreeable if it were supplied with water, and more care were taken of it; it has not hitherto been much frequented.

The Alameda is an avenue planted with trees, into which we enter from the Carthagena road, after passing the Botanic Garden; it is very short, and runs round in a sharp angle before the Capuchin convent. It is so dusty, that it is sometimes impossible to walk in it.

The Malecon, which signifies quay, causeway, or dyke, begins at the back of the convent of St. Francis, at a little distance from the arsenal, and on the same line. It is a dyke made like a causeway, which was raised in the beginning of the last century to restrain and keep off the waters of the Segura: it is raised about two yards above the level of the land. It was made winding to follow the turnings of the river; it is twelve feet four inches broad, and twelve hundred yards long. It has no trees; it is however rendered a very attractive walk by the beauty of the surrounding seats, of the verdant fields on which it looks down, and of the many various trees that grow near it; in short, it goes through a portion of the Huerta, that is, the beautiful country in the environs, where the houses and cottages, interspersed with a multitude and variety of trees, unite to render the prospect agreeable. Being quite open, it is frequented in winter in the middle of the day, there being nothing to impede the heat of the sun; but, for the same reason, it is shunned in summer; one would be burnt up: besides, it is dangerous at nightfall on account of the vapours which rise from the river and adjacent fields, which are always full of water, conveyed there for irrigation.

These promenades indeed are of little use, for the inhabitant of

of Murcia is no walker; he stays at home, where he eats, sleeps, and smokes his segar: if he ever moves, it is to go and see his field, his garden, his lawyers, or his confessor.

Public Instruction. Murcia has three colleges, St. Leander, St. Fulgence, and St. Isidore. The first is devoted entirely to the teaching of music and chanting. That of St. Fulgence has been long founded, but it was considerably improved and augmented in the eighteenth century, by the beneficence of Cardinal de Belluga, the bishop of the town. Two hundred and fifty boys are educated here; of these a hundred and twenty are maintained at the expence of the house, sixty pay as half boarders, and the rest as full boarders; the admission is at the appointment of the bishop: the Latin grammar, classical learning, rhetoric, philosophy, theology, and law, are taught here: it is under the direction of ecclesiastics; as is the college of St. Isidore, which was founded by Cardinal de Belluga, for the education of youth intended for the church. The number maintained in the latter college is twenty-four. The exercises consist of conferences on theological subjects: the bishop nominates.

There are two public libraries: one at a convent of monks, the other at the episcopal palace; the latter is the library formerly belonging to the Jesuits, which has not been much augmented: it consists chiefly of scholastic theology, and the philosophy of Aristotle; there are no modern books in it.

Industry—Manufactures. This town has a board of public economy, and some manufactures and fabrics, most of which are of little importance. It has a manufactory of saltpetre and of gunpowder, which is on the king's account. A good deal of earthen ware is made and used in the country. The manufacturing of spart, or Spanish broom, employs a great many persons, who plait it and make it into mats of different kinds, and into baskets, shoes, ropes, &c.: it is an object of considerable importance. Silk stuffs, satins, velvets, and taffetas, are made here, but there is no great manufactory of them. They are wrought at private houses, and are but of a middling quality.

quality. The making of ribbons is more extensive, but there is no established manufactory for them; they are likewise made by individuals; the looms they employ amount to twelve hundred.

The twisting of silk has been long followed in this town. It employed a great number of persons, and was in the hands of a particular company: but the workmen, uninformed, had but one routine, which they had learned from those that went before them. Lately, a machine for twisting the silk has been introduced, and the work has already been carried to such perfection, that great advantages are hoped from it. The introduction of machinery naturally created a dissatisfaction, and produced complaints and petitions, it being attended with a diminution in the number of silk-twisters.

Commerce. Murcia has scarcely any particular commerce of its own, but shares in the general commerce of the province, which will be mentioned hereafter. All its own trade is confined to the articles made of spart, which it sends to different places, particularly Madrid, and to a certain quantity of ribbons: its earthen-ware and silk stuffs do not exceed the consumption of the country.

Nobility and Society. Murcia has been the residence of a nobility almost all descended from one or other of the warriors who accompanied king James II, to the conquest of this town, or from those by whom it was peopled immediately after. Some of these first families are extinct, and others removed; some of them yet remain, and new ones have come, so that the number of the nobility is still considerable. Cascales, who in the beginning of the seventeenth century wrote a bad history of Murcia, reckoned in it at that time two hundred and ten chief families of noblemen, the stock of their houses, without counting their collateral branches; but their number has greatly diminished. If we credit this historian, who has given their genealogies, true or false, this nobility is the most distinguished of the Spanish monarchy, nay, of all Europe: he gives them a most illustrious origin. Three

of

of these houses, he makes to be descendants of the royal family of France[1]; several others of the ancient lords of Montpellier[2]; of the ancient counts of Toulouse[3]; of the ancient counts of Barcelona[4]; of the twelve peers of Charlemagne[5]; of the Visigoth kings[6]; of the Gothic kings, of the Moorish kings of Granada, of Murcia, and of Meroc[7]; of the ancient Grecians, of the Lysons of Greece[8]; of Timotheus the son of Conon, the Athenian general[9]; of one Julius Pachecus, who lived under Julius Cæsar[10]; of the Roman Emperors[11]; and, higher still,

[1] The house of Rocamora, that of Lison, that of Fontes, who say that they came from Provence into Catalonia with Berenger the Conquer⁰r.

[2] The house of Rocaful, who declare themselves to be the issue of the lords of Montpellier, in 1200.

[3] The house of Poyos.

[4] The house of Guardiola.

[5] The house of Galtero, who assert that they are of the house of the counts of Bren.

[6] The house of Almela, made to be descended from the duke of everien, son of Theodoric the Visigoth king.

[7] The house of Quadro, whose pretended genealogy will be given in note [11].

[8] The house of Lyson. The Genealogist here completely contradicts himself, by making this family descend from Greece, and from the royal house of France.

[9] The house of Usodemar.

[10] The house of Pacheco.

[11] The house of Quadro. This historian makes the most singular combinations, and tells the most amusing stories in order to establish the genealogies which he reports. That of the Quadros is as follows: one Dioclesian, of the family of the Cæsars, married a daughter of Ovigil, a Gothic king; by her he had a son, Dioclesian Quadras, so called from his carrying a shield quartered with armorial bearings; he was taken prisoner by the Moors, and sent to Maroc, where he married a daughter of the emperor Miramolin; by her he had a Mahometan son, who succeeded to the throne of his maternal grandfather; his great grandson and his descendants reigned in Granada, and Murcia, till Aben Hudiel ceded his kingdom to the king of Castile. Aben Hudiel had two sons

Liban

still, of one Pinarius, who was a companion to Romulus, and was at the foundation of Rome[12].

They boast much at Murcia of the pleasures, said to have been formerly enjoyed there: if it be true, the times are very much changed. There are few towns in Spain so tiresome to a stranger: there are no plays, balls, or parties.

The Murcian scarcely ever goes out of the town which gave him birth; he is not to be seen at courts, or in camps, in courts of justice, universities, or commercial towns; he lives with apathy, a life of sloth and indifference. He eats, drinks, sleeps, counts his beads, and drags his cloak to a place where he sits himself down to think of nothing. He does not even suspect that there is a more agreeable life than that which he now leads; that there is a greater extent of knowledge than that which he possesses; that there are abodes happier than that which he inhabits; nay, he does not think that there exist men more useful than himself. We may, consequently, read the history of Spain from one end to the other without finding any names of Murcians who have distinguished themselves in arms, or in the arts and sciences. The common people participate this indolence; a countryman or a porter employed to carry ever so light a load, if it even weighed no more than twenty five pounds, would lay it on an ass, and refuse to carry it himself.

Ignorance and sloth render the manners of this town dis-

Liban Quadro, and Abrahen Quadro, the latter of whom embraced the catholic faith, and was the stock of the Quadros of Murcia. From this genealogical chain it would follow, that the family of the Quadros descended, first, from the emperors of Rome; secondly, from the Gothic kings; thirdly, from the emperors of Maroc; fourthly, from the kings of Granada; fifthly, from the kings of Murcia.

12 The house of Pinar.

Whatever may be the case as to the genealogies, the nobility here are almost all French; they are descended from that crowd of warriors, who, in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, went out to try their fortunes under the banners of foreign princes.

agreeable:

agreeable: prejudices are carried to the greatest height, and the inhabitants are extremely litigious. Each pries into the actions of his neighbour, in order to censure his conduct, whence arises a general distrust; they fear and avoid one another; every one lives by himself and to himself, away from his relations, without friends or connections: this detached life foments suspicion, sours the temper, and produces savage habits: dissention makes its way into families, who seldom if ever assemble together. Through curiosity to know foreigners and travellers, the Murcian seeks them, but only to avoid them afterwards with pointed affectation. Thus the society here takes a complexion of that savageness with which the Murcians unaptly reproach their predecessors the Moors.

This account is not overcharged; it is confirmed by the testimony of Cardinal Belluga, who long occupied the see of this city, and who was distinguished for his learning and virtue; he justly estimated the character of the Murcians; he said, and all Murcia knows it, *El cielo y el suelo buenos, el entre suola malo;* the sky and the ground are good, it is what is between them that is bad*. An exception should be made in favour of the Murcian women; they are mild and affable, and would be fond of society, but their husbands allow them very little liberty, and are always ready to find fault with their conduct, however innocent.

Murcia is not lighted at night, which renders it dangerous on account of the turnings and windings of the streets, and the *culs-de-sacs* of which it is full. Some years ago lamps were put up, but the novelty displeased the people so highly that the very first night they were lighted, they were all broken with stones. But here as at Valencia, the inconveniences of the darkness are diminished by the establishment of watchmen, who walk the street at night calling the hour.

The sky is very fine and always clear, seldom having the

* The point of this saying is lost in English, but from the correspondence of customs is preserved in French; *le ciel et le sol sont bons, l'entresol mauvais.*

appearance

appearance of the slightest cloud. The sun is burning hot in summer, and warm enough in winter. It scarcely ever rains here; not a drop falls for seven or eight months together. The watering of the adjacent fields and the vicinity of the river cause a great moisture in the air, but which is felt only in the winter: in summer it is suspended or rarefied by the excessive heat of the sun in the day time, but it is very perceptible at the approach of night; in the months of July and August one's clothes are full of water by eight or nine o'clock at night. In the winter months there are very few days that make it necessary to warm one's self by the fire, and in the summer the thermometer of Reaumur is often at thirty degrees* and more in the shade. Unless accustomed to it, it is hardly possible to endure for a quarter of an hour the violent action of the sun; and so powerful is the effect of it that it makes one giddy in only going the length of a street, or crossing a square. One should stay at home in the day and take care to keep the windows shut till the evening, nor even then is it always prudent to go for coolness in the open air, on account of the dangerous humidity of it.

The complexion of the Murcian is rather yellow than sun burnt, and often even livid: he is sad, gloomy, choleric, hypocondriacal, and subject to diseases of the liver. This may arise from several causes: the want of exercise; bad food, of which pimento is the chief part; the excessive abuse of iced water, carried to madness even among the common people; (there was an insurrection in 1791 because there was a want of ice for half a day;) and the no less excessive abuse of sleep; he goes to bed early, rises late, and again sleeps two hours after his dinner. He has prejudices on the subject of health, which are favourable to chronic diseases: he would never bathe without wetting his head, persuaded that without this precaution it would be dangerous, so he considers partial bathing as pernicious. The abuse of bleeding is general

* Ninety-nine of Farenheit.

in

in Murcia; they have a vein opened without occasion for it, and often for a whim. Without any preparation or caution they go to a surgeon's, lose blood, and off again as fancy directs. He who is not blooded more than ten or twelve times a year, thinks himself very moderate. Nothing is more common than to see the journeyman at his business, the workman in his master's shop, the Bourgeois or man of the world in the streets, women at their work, and ladies at church, with one hand tied round with a band of black taffety; for they bleed no where else in Murcia, and it is not certain that a surgeon could be found able to bleed in the arm. The Murcian is persuaded that chronic diseases should be left to themselves, and that attempting to cure them is dangerous; the physicians refuse to attend to them, and tell the persons attacked by them that they must live with their enemy. In this they act wisely; perhaps they distrust their skill. Bleeding is the remedy for all ills; it is prescribed for a slight inconvenience, and for excessive drowsiness as well as for inability to sleep.

Celebrated Men. All that Murcia can boast of having given birth to are two indifferent writers: Francisco Cascales, and Salvador Hiacente Polo de Medina. The former, towards the beginning of the seventeenth century, published a compilation on the history of his country; and the latter in 1715, a work entitled *Academias del Jardin.* If the Murcians chuse to go as far back as the Moors, they may lay claim to one Schamseddin, who was director of the famous college of Granada, and of great celebrity among the Arabians. The town of Murcia has however produced in our times a man whose name will hold a distinguished place in the page of history, an enlightened and honest minister, who governed Spain with success, who strove to restore the glory of his country, and who, in the eminent station to which he had been raised by his own talents, retained the candour of an ingenuous mind, the simplicity of manners congenial to his birth, an uncommon affability, a disinterestedness which nothing was able

able to shake, and a zeal for the welfare of his countrymen. The name of Muninos, and afterwards Florida Blanca, will ever be venerated by the Spaniards; they were never more sensible of what he had done for them than when they lost him*; it created a general consternation.

Inns. There are no inns in Murcia, but only posadas, the least intolerable of which is that of San Francisco. It is astonishing that there should be no better accommodations for travellers in a town which is so considerable a thoroughfare, which is on the road from Madrid to Carthagena, and on that from Catalonia and the kingdom of Valencia into Andalusia. A commodious and decent house for the reception of travellers was begun by order of the government: what was done of it is to be seen near the bridge; but the building has been discontinued.

Living is cheap enough at Murcia, compared to many other towns in Spain; vegetables and fruit are very reasonable, and fish is not dear: the following articles were sold some years ago at the prices affixed, by the pound of sixteen ounces.

	Vellon Money.	*Sterling.*
Bread	4 quartz	$1\frac{1}{2}d.$
Kid	16	$4\frac{3}{4}$
Pork	15	$4\frac{3}{4}$
Mutton	13	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Beef	11	$3\frac{1}{4}$

Very little beef is eaten here: the people even think that it is eaten only by the Jews.

It appears surprising that with such moderate prices, the posada should be so dear, and yet that those who keep it do not get rich; but this will be found to be owing to the excessive duties imposed upon the publican, who pays thirty vellon reals, or 6s. 3d. English money, a day, besides a tax of seven hundred and fifty reals, or 7l. 15s. 10d. sterling, per annum, for the duty of Alcavala, amounting to 118l. 4s. 2d. yearly.

* In 1792.

The

The road from Murcia to Lorca, 13 leagues.

From Murcia to		
Don Juan, (a village)		$\frac{1}{4}$ leagues.
Arroyo de Betleem, (a river without a bridge)	$1\frac{1}{2}$	
Lebrilla, (a village)	$1\frac{1}{4}$	
Venta de Alhama,	$1\frac{1}{2}$	
Tutana, (a little town)	$2\frac{1}{2}$	
Guadalentin, (a river without a bridge) Lorca, (a town)	5	

In leaving Murcia, we cross the bridge over the river Segura, keep along by the Botanic Garden, and come into a very fine road lately made, which goes to Carthagena. It is straight, firm, kept in good repair, and is a little raised like a causeway; it passes through the most beautiful and best kept part of the Huerta of Murcia. We see nothing on all sides but mulberry forests, fields, gardens, and cottages, scattered over the country, and among the trees: an uninterrupted variety of agreeable objects fixes the attention of the traveller. We proceed on this road with delight and admiration, after travelling through the parched country of La Mancha, and over the wild mountains of Murcia; but the humidity which rises from these beautiful lands seems to spread over the road; the effects of it are felt in the morning and at night, chiefly before sun-rise, and after sun-set.

We leave to the right, at a little distance from the

the road, the villages of Heralta, Unduermas, and Raya; and to the left that of Aljezares. After travelling a league and a half, we come to the village of Don Juan. Here we quit the Carthagena road, and, turning to the right, go through the village into a large plain, very dusty, flat, and naked, having only a few olive trees here and there: it is bounded to the left, but at a considerable distance, by a great chain of lofty mountains, which separate it from the Campo de Carthagena; among them is distinguished the Sierra de Carascoy, which raises its lofty head above the rest. Three quarters of a league from Don Juan there is a small stream, which runs through the fields; and three quarters of a league farther we cross the Arroyo de Betleem, a little river, without a bridge: they are both extremely useful for the watering of the lands: this plain is sown with corn, but the cultivation shows great carelessness. Soon after, olive trees begin to appear in greater numbers; the country becomes handsomer, and, by degrees, we perceive forests of mulberry trees, poplars, &c. We now travel among some gardens, and arrive at Lebrilla, four leagues from Murcia.

Lebrilla. This village contains about a thousand inhabitants. It is of a middle size: it is called rich, but the outside of the houses has not the appearance of opulence. It is almost cut and divided in two by a sort of long, broad, and deep bog, that has no issue, formed by rains. They say that it

has constantly gathered, from neglect to repair the place in time: this bog would, in the end, have cut off all direct communication between the two sides of the town, had a bridge not been built over it.

The posada has a magnificent exterior, which forms a contrast with the miserable appearance of the houses: in front it has eleven balconies in a row, and two coach-ways; within, it is badly laid out. It was built by the duke of Alba, the lord of the village, at his own expence.

Continuing through the same plain, in a quarter of an hour we see, to the right, a great reservoir, in which the water is collected and preserved for watering the lands; and, to the left, a considerable quantity of mulberry, olive, and poplar trees. A league and a half from Lebrilla, we perceive on the right the mountain Espuna, and shortly after the little town of Alhama at the foot of it: it is said to have been founded by the Moors, and from the name it is very probable. It has a population of about four thousand inhabitants, a parish church, two monasteries, and a hospital: the ruins of its ancient castle is still to be seen, and it is famous for its baths and hot springs.

We pass on immediately to the Venta de Alhama, which stands close to a little wood of mulberries, and by which a road turns off that leads to Carthagena. We see, at the same time, to the right, on the side of the town of Alhama, a great number of trees thickly set and running a long way, with

with houses scattered among them. Shortly after we come to extensive vineyards, on the left, with olive and mulberry plantations on the right. The fields now become bare, and we proceed till we approach some low hills on the right, when we see about two hundred large plantations, with houses scattered among them. Soon after, the country is completely parched up and barren, but we come again insensibly among olive trees, of which we find considerable plantations to the left: we travel by the side of them and arrive at Tutana, four leagues from Lebrilla.

Tutana is a town of bad appearance, though its population amounts to about 12,000 souls; the houses are ill built, and low, most of them having only a ground floor. It belongs to the order of St. James. It has a parish church, with a parish minister and twenty priests, a convent of Franciscan monks, an alcade mayor, and an hospital, which is small, badly kept, and inadequate to the wants of a poor and numerous population. It has a square of a good size, but irregular: at one end of it there is a hexagon fountain, which would stand better in the middle; in the centre of the great bason is a pedestal of blue and white marble, on the sides of which are heads pouring out water; on the pedestal a short pyramid of red and white marble, likewise hexagon, rises and supports a cistern of white marble, which contains a group of three children and three heads of satyrs intermixed throwing out water.

We leave Tutana by a long and handsome avenue of elms and poplars, which shade the road. The environs of the town, to the left, are rendered beautiful, by a succession of little gardens and fine plantations. The road is level; but mountains appear on all sides at some distance. The lands are partly cultivated, partly fallow; they have no trees, a few olive clumps excepted at considerable distances, and the only habitations are a few scattered houses. Thus we proceed three leagues and a half, insensibly approaching the mountains; to the right we continue along them, and enter among superb plantations of olive trees, forming woods impenetrable to the light of day, and through which we go a mile and a half. They would have a pleasing appearance, were it not for the sight of some naked gloomy mountains, against which we seem squeezed as in a kind of strait. In this way we travel on to Lorca, four leagues from Tutana, after fording the little river Guadalentin, which bathes its walls, but which in general is nothing more than a brook. The town is seen a good way before we come to it, and opens in a manner not much to its advantage. The lower part, which is the best, is hidden by trees. The upper part appears, but the houses, low, crowded, and squatting, as it were, on the mountain side, seem identically belonging to it, and to be only heaps of rock, of which they have the colour: the only indication we have of there being being better habitations

habitations is from the steeples, which look as if they were rising out of the ground.

Lorca, called in ancient times Cliocrata, is a town of considerable size, situated very near the confines of the kingdom of Granada, on the eastern flank, and at the foot of a steep mountain, almost all of schist, called the Sierra del Cano, on the right bank of the Guadalentin: it is at the entrance of a fine, smiling, rich country, full of trees, particularly olive and mulberry, to every part of which the stream of the Guadalentin meandears, spreading fertility around. The town was once commanded by a castle of considerable size, built at the top of the mountain, in an advantageous spot: it was very strong under the Moors, and under the kings of Castile; but at present it is almost destroyed; there is nothing to be seen but the outer walls. This town has sustained several sieges. It was blockaded and taken by the Moors in the year 714, at the time that the rest of Spain submitted to their dominion. It was again besieged and taken in 1244, by the Infant Don Alphonso, the son of Ferdinand II, king of Castile and Leon. Becoming the frontier of the kingdom of Castile, after that of Murcia was united to the crown, it was several times attacked by the Moorish kings of Granada, till Ferdinand the Catholic made himself master of their states. From that time the fortifications were neglected and sunk to ruin, and Lorca became an open town. Among the sieges,

two

two are particularly distinguished, those of 1244, and 1302. The former was undertaken by the infant Don Alphonso; the town of Lorca, with those of Carthagena and Mula, having refused to submit to the king of Castile, when Aben Hudiel, king of Murcia, took his states from him in 1240: the place was carried after an obstinate resistance; the colours taken from the Moors are still preserved here. The latter was by James II, king of Aragon, who supported the party of the infants Alphonso and Ferdinand de la Cerda, grandsons and heirs of Alphonso IV, but deprived of the crown by the usurpation of Sancho the Brave, their uncle. In 1302, James II made himself master of the whole kingdom of Murcia, except the towns of Lorca, Mula, and Alcala, under Ferdinand the Justicier, son of Sancho the Brave; he opened the trenches before Lorca towards the end of the year 1303, and reduced it in January 1304; but he gave up his conquests in the same year to the king of Castile, in exchange for the town of Alicant, and some other places.

Situation—Extent. This town is at present much larger than it was under the Moors: it was then confined to the mountain side, and did not extend, as it now does, into the plain; there are still to be seen the vestiges of its ancient limits, some gates and portions of the walls of which are in existence. It is divided into the upper and lower town; the former is the old one, occupied by the Moors; it stands entirely on the acclivity of the hill; the streets are small, narrow, crooked, badly paved, and often very steep; and the houses

houses are ill built, low, irregular, and almost all of them bearing the stamp of poverty. The lower town, of a more modern date, is better built, and more airy: almost the whole of it stands on level ground; some of the streets are long, wide, and even, with many houses regularly built of which some are agreeable enough: it has four gates, and several squares, but small, irregular, and badly built; Mayor-square is the only one of importance. It is oblong, of middling size, and some of the buildings in it are prettily decorated. The lower town has two suburbs, that of Garcia, at the entrance on the Andalusia side, and that of Christoval, coming from Murcia. The extent of the latter is sufficient for a population of twelve thousand persons.

Population. The population of Lorca is computed at about thirty thousand inhabitants, among whom a great many are of the nobility, almost all of ancient families, and entirely devoted to agriculture; the rest is made up of people generally very poor. There are a great number of Gitanos, or gypsies here, a class of wandering vagabonds, who have been too long the scourge of several provinces of Spain, and the terror of travellers, or at least they were distrusted by them.

Clergy. Some say that Lorca had formerly an episcopal see established in the year 54 of the Christian era, by Indalucio, who was the first bishop of it: in support of this opinion, it is added that Successus, in the year 300, signed his name at the council of Elvira as bishop of Lorca; the emperor Constantine placed this see under the mother church of Toledo; that its bishop was present in 610 at the council of that city; that about a hundred years after that period it was united with that of Carthagena, and according to some removed to that town. But generally the existence of this see is doubted; some place it at the port of Las Aguilas, near Lorca, and others at Urci, thought to be the Orce of the kingdom of Granada.

Lorca has at present a collegiate chapter, eight parish churches, seven monasteries, two nunneries, two hospitals, the

the one for men, the other for women, and a college for the instruction of youth. The collegiate chapter has an Abbot for its president; it is composed of fourteen canons, and twenty four chaplains. The canons enjoy each an income of about 20,000 reals, or 208l. 6s. 8d. sterling.

Administration. This town is the chief place of a corregidorat. It is governed by a corregidor de roba, and twenty four regidors, who form the municipality. It has a manufacture of saltpetre, and is the station of a battalion of provincial militia.

Commerce. It has no commerce whatever. Some of the produce of the country is taken from it, particularly silk and kali: but this trade is carried on by foreigners, especially the French, who are settled here.

Edifices. The Hotel-de-Ville is in Mayor-square. Its façade consists of a row of piazzas, and a row of iron balconies over them, each supported by seven arcades: the balconies bulge out in the middle; the wings are surmounted with shields and arms, and that in the middle with a statue of the Holy Virgin placed between those of Justice and Charity: they are all of indifferent execution.

The collegiate church is in a narrow sloping street, near the Hotel-de-Ville. Its façade is of the Corinthian and composite orders; it has three stories of architecture, the first of eight fluted columns, supporting a well executed cornice; the second of a similar number of columns, with a bad statue of St. Patrick in the middle; the third of four columns, with the statue of the Holy Virgin. This is surmounted with several statues of saints and angels, of poor workmanship. In this front there are three gates, which are large, well proportioned, and ornamented with bass-reliefs, of which there is a great variety without confusion. It is of free-stone, regular and noble. The church has a nave and two aisles of middling size, gracefully disposed. The choir is in the middle of the church; the exterior face of it opposite to the principal door of the building, and which the Spaniards call *trascora*, is concealed

cealed by an altar, an enormous mass of stones, with pilasters, sculptures, and statues, without symmetry or taste. Over the altar in the chapel of St. Diego there is a large painting in which there are some fine points, and heads done with energy.

The church of the barefoot Carmelites, has a façade with three stories of architecture; the first is of six pilasters, between which there are three large gates decorated with sculptured ornaments, very simple but well finished; the second has four similar pilasters, with two casement windows, and in the middle a statue of St. Indalucio; it is surmounted on each side with a very indifferent statue; the third has two pilasters with a large medallion in the middle, containing a Holy Virgin in bass-relief, the whole surmounted with a statue of the prophet Elias. The church is of a middling size, but of a just and elegant architecture; it has a nave and two aisles ornamented with Corinthian pilasters, and a dome well turned, admitting plenty of light; it would have been noble and majestic if it had not been spoiled by an attempt to give it an air of magnificence by masses of gilding and bad paintings, crowded together without taste or harmony.

The parish church of St. James is of a middling size, and has a noble appearance. It has a body and two aisles, decorated with great pilasters of the Corinthian order, which support a cornice, round which is a gallery with iron-railing. The cross wings are handsome, though not deeper than the aisles; in the middle they support a dome with elegance; sixteen Corinthian pilasters sustain sixteen arches, which are carried up delicately, and bear the vault; a handsome iron-railing runs all round the dome; the gildings are better contrived, and distributed more elegantly than in the other parts of the church.

The Dominicans. Their church has only a body of a middling size, which has a graceful appearance, with six arched recesses on each side for chapels; the arches are separated by pilasters of the Corinthian order. The capitals of the pilasters, the frieze, cornice, flower-work over the opening of the

the chapels, and the arches of the vault, are gracefully ornamented with numerous little gilt bands without confusion. One of the arches leads to the chapel of our lady of the Rosary, which is almost as large as the church. It is a spacious place, the vault gracefully lofty; it has three large arches on each side opening into so many chapels, and which are separated by pilasters, on which a cornice supports a small gallery that has an iron-railing with gilt ornaments, projecting a little; it is an ornament to the chapel without disfiguring it; the cross aisle is well proportioned, with a similar architecture and gallery; it has an airy dome lighted by four medallion windows, with a gallery and iron-railing, and some tolerable good paintings in fresco, by Balthazar Martinez of Lorca. The sanctuary is small, vaulted with shell-work, and enclosed by an iron-rail with gilt ornaments. The principal altar is made up of pieces in bass-relief, with four Corinthian columns and two pilasters; in the middle is a camaril, a kind of oblong oratory, every where gilt, with eight little pilasters and a dome, without windows; it contains a statue of the Holy Virgin.

The Convent of La Merci * has two tolerably handsome square cloisters, both raised to the upper story where they form galleries: one of them has six arcades supported by twenty columns on each side, the other has four arcades supported by sixteen square pillars; they are hung all round with large paintings on different subjects by Rebullosa, of indifferent execution. The church is simple, but disfigured by galleries that project too far out. The camaril of the altar of La Soledad contains some good pictures; there are nineteen in the first room and fifteen in the second; among the former we remark a crowning with thorns; an *ecce homo* with a group of Jews throwing the mantle over him; a St. Francis of Paule and a St John; and among the latter these four large pictures, a Christ in the arms of the Holy Virgin after the descent from the Cross; a Christ on Calvary before his

* Monks devoted to the redemption of captives.

crucifixion;

crucifixion; a Flagellation, and a Bearing of the Cross: some of these paintings are by Pedro Gamacho; the painters of the others are unknown.

This convent and its church are no longer in existence; they were destroyed to their very foundations in an instant by an event that deserves to be reported here; for it is incumbent on the heads of states to guard against the speculations of individuals, when they affect the public interest: there are some good ones, but many more bad; among the latter was the undertaking of the bason of Lorca, and the disastrous issue of it should be held up as a great example.

Lorca was growing rich from the fecundity of the soil about it. Every one profited with care by the waters diffused in several places, and made use of it to water and fertilize his field. But an individual was permitted by state authority to collect all the water into a common bason or reservoir. The enterprize took place. Proprietors, on losing the advantages which they derived from the waters scattered and more within their reach, murmured at the great difficulty they experienced in making use of the body of water accumulated in the reservoir, and at being obliged to pay a high price for it. The lands neglected became parched in a country where it seldom rains, the crops failed, and poverty succeeded to ease and opulence: such was the language at Lorca in 1792. But on the other hand it was said, that these murmurs arose from a prejudice against the person who had the direction of the work; that the undertaking was generally advantageous; that till that time only a few individuals made use of the scattered waters near their properties, and that the water was lost by too many divisions; that it was necessary, no doubt, to purchase a right of watering, by a contribution proportioned to the extent of the land, and that that contribution was heavy enough; but the expences of the work which were immense, and those for keeping it up and paying persons employed about it, must be paid and provided for. Be this as it may, men grew exasperated, and the cry

of

of discontented individuals became general: on which Lenourda, who had the direction of the bason, being supported by the government, took upon himself to exercise vexations, abuses of authority, and multiplied acts of unheard of despotism against those who murmured or dared to utter a complaint; they were arrested, imprisoned, banished; he employed every means to overcome opinion. Dissention crept into families, distrust among relations, and terror kept the inhabitants from associating.

This bason was superb, and appeared of a solid construction. Its extent was immense, one might almost say terrific, uniting all the dispersed waters; it contained a body which might suffice to water all the territory of Lorca, and some of the neighbouring lands for several years. For this very reason it was of a short duration. The waters insensibly undermined it at one angle, and it suddenly gave way on the 30th of April, 1802. The water rushed out with such impetuosity, that it swept away all before it: public buildings, houses, trees, rocks, men, and animals. This city suffered most from its violence; one of its suburbs, consisting of about 600 houses, two hospitals, a barrack, two convents, a parish church, mills, and fountains, were swallowed up and disappeared in an instant. Similar ravages occurred wherever the water reached; that is to say, to an extent of sixteen leagues: every thing was swept away; many villages were destroyed; the city of Murcia, twelve leagues distant, and the town of Orihuela, which is four leagues farther off, suffered, though less. The number of people who perished is estimated at 6000, and the animals at 24,000. The fields, formerly so beautiful, are now bare, impoverished, covered with sand, rubbish, heaps of stones, and pieces of wood; in many places marshes have formed; in fine, this once opulent country has fallen suddenly into a state of perhaps irreparable wretchednesss. The loss is estimated at 200 million reals, or 2,083,333l. sterling.

The inhabitants of Lorca considered it an act of divine justice,

justice, that the individual who had been charged with the construction of this work, he to whom they attributed all their vexations, and who was the object of execration to all the country, should at this moment happen to be at Lorca; he did not reside there, and might it appears have saved himself with ease; nevertheless he was driven towards the danger by an invisible hand, and rushing into it, he was the first who perished.

Manners and Society. This enterprize and its melancholy consequences form a memorable era with the inhabitants of Lorca, whence even their manners have received a sad shock. It is asserted, that formerly a residence in this town was tolerably agreeable; the inhabitants formed several parties, frequented public walks, and that all breathed an air of gaiety; but now every one stays at home, the promenades are deserted, and the people are melancholy: this change is the more deeply felt as mildness, benevolence, and good nature, appear to be the characteristic of the inhabitants.

Public Walks. The promenades still evince the taste which they had for this kind of pleasure, and the opulence which enabled them to lay them out; they are uncommonly beautiful, and are composed of a great number of long broad walks between the town and the river, and disposed in such a way that in walking we pass from one to the other. They are planted with lofty trees which shade them, and in some of them the trees form magnificent arbours which entirely cover them, and are so thick that at noon day in the midst of summer the rays of the sun cannot penetrate: there are large squares ornamented with stone seats, equally shaded. The prospect is embellished by the variety of the adjacent lands: fields, meadows, gardens, orchards, and groves, abound on every side. At first we pass through these walks with a pleasing sensation, which soon gives place to a melancholy impression on finding them deserted.

On one side of these promenades a fine road has been made, which extending five or six leagues, leads to the port of Las Aguilas; it is broad, and lined with trees throughout. We

entered

entered upon it by a bridge which has been lately built over the Guadalentin, consisting of three arches, and ornamented with an iron balustrade.

Celebrated Men. Lorca gave birth to Juan Azar, who wrote on theology, and died in 1643; to Juan de Toledo, who died about the year 1665, who left behind him some distinguished paintings; to Balthazar Martinez, a painter of the third order, who has left some good paintings in fresco in the chapel of the Rosary, the church of the Dominicans of this town.

The fields of Lorca are beautiful, and extend towards the east, in a sort of wreath of several leagues in length; they are covered with trees so thickly planted, that they appear like a large forest. Poplars, olive, mulberry, and every species of fruit trees, are competitors for the distinction of shading by their foliage so rich and valuable a soil, whose coolness increases its fertility. Innumerable fields display all the richness of the most abundant harvests; the meadows form carpets of the most brilliant verdure; gardens, cultivated with care, are in great numbers every where; orchards, neat and well taken care of, ornament this extensive landskip, and houses, dispersed on every side, diffuse life. This place is not quitted without regret, to pass into so dry and sterile a soil as that which is in its vicinity.

Road from Murcia to the frontiers of the kingdom of Valencia, 3 leagues*.

Murcia, to	
Monte-Agudo, (a village)	1 league.
El Cantillo, (a hamlet)	½
La Sierra de Orihuela, (a mountain)	1½

There are two roads from Murcia to the frontier of the kingdom of Valencia; one by the gate

* Road from Murcia, to Valencia, and Catalonia.

of

of Orihuela, crosses a part of the Huerta and runs mostly by the side of the river Segura: it is impassable in autumn and winter. The other goes over a part of the Huerta, and passes at the foot of some mountains: it is passable at all times; and is that of which we are going to speak.

We leave Murcia by the new gate, and soon enter on the Huerta, which we travel for a league over the most disagreeable part of it, full of deep ruts; the eye has always before it a great number of mulberry trees, land sown with corn, but superficially cultivated, some dispersed and wretched mud cottages, and covered with straw; no fruit trees, no kitchen garden, notwithstanding the ground is so abundantly watered. One league brings us to Monte-Agudo, a small miserable village, at the foot of a little steep mountain. We perceive on its summit the ruins of a castle, famous for the sieges it formerly sustained, and the resistance it made. This mountain is a calcareous rock, and many fossiles are found in it.

Here we leave the Huerta, and turn round this mountain, which is also called Monte-Agudo. We are twenty minutes travelling between other mountains, which seem to be dependant on this, and bear the same name. At last we catch a view of the Huerta, which we travel along to the right for about ten minutes, having the same mountains still on the left; they are perfectly bare. Esparragal

parragal is left at about one hundred paces distant on the right; it is a large, long, and narrow village, situated at the foot and on the side of a mountain of the same name, round which it winds a good way. We continue between little mountains; but by a more open way, occasionally ornamented with olive trees. On the right we again have a view of the Huerta; a little farther on we come to Cantillo, a hamlet consisting of some barracks. The country now becomes more open and woody, and we soon reach the foot of the mountain called Covatellas, which is a bare rock; and we leave behind, about three hundred paces in the country, the village of the same name. On looking behind here the prospect is superb. Continuing the road we pass over the mountains to a large valley tolerably open, but dry, sown, with corn, and planted with a few olives: it expands on the right, and opens into the Huerta, giving a view of the village of Santo-Mera about a quarter of a league to the right. It takes about forty minutes to cross this valley, when we come to the foot of the Sierra de Orihuela, a very large and lofty mountain of great extent, towards the separation of the kingdoms of Murcia and Valencia.

We now again enter Murcia, after having travelled eleven leagues in Valencia. Part of the former kingdom extends into the latter, so as to be as it were enclosed in it; this we quit above the Elda, on the road to Valencia, and we enter it

again

again on leaving Villena. We then travel for three leagues more through Murcia, by a road which we have described in our account of the kingdom of Valencia.

Road from Albacete to the frontiers of the kingdom of Valencia, 14 leagues*.

Albacete, (a town), to	
Venta del Rincon	3 leagues.
El Villar, (a village)	3
Albonete, or Elbonete, (a village)	2
Almanza, (a town)	4
Venta del Puerto,	2

On leaving Albacete, we continue to follow the plain in which that town is situated; here we find wheat, barley, and some pasturage. Two leagues farther, we see, on the right, the little town and castle of Chinchilla, situated on a parched eminence, which appears to command the plain we have just passed. We proceed between eminences or hillocks which are bare and gloomy. After travelling an hour longer we reach the Venta del Rincon, a single house, where there is a tolerable *posada*.

We proceed on the same road, through sterile and depopulated country, for three leagues, to the village of El Villar, and two leagues more to that of Albonete, or Elbonete. Now the coun-

* Road from Madrid to Valencia.

try becomes stony, covered with briars, and desert; and we reach Almanza, after travelling four leagues more, without meeting any habitations excepting a few scattered houses; the whole country is bare. We cross however a wood of green oak, and we go along a wood of Carobs for about a league.

Almanza, which is said to be the Almantica of the Romans, is a little town, situated in a plain, and containing about six thousand inhabitants. It has a parish church, a convent of Franciscan monks, one of Augustine nuns, an hospital, and an alcade mayor. The streets are wide, and the houses tolerably handsome, though low.

The parish church is large, and not remarkable for any thing but its front: it has two stories of architecture; the first, of four Doric columns, before an equal number of pilasters, with niches between the columns, and an Annunciation tolerably well executed over the door: the second, of four Ionic columns, before pilasters of the same order, with an Assumption, and the apostles in the middle; but the sculpture is executed without taste or design. The cornice of the second story supports candelabra of a good workmanship, corresponding with the columns. The whole industry of this town consists in the fabrication of common or household linen; which is manufactured for individuals, by a great many weavers, who work at their own habitations.

At

At a great distance north of this town, upon a rather elevated hillock, the ruins of an ancient castle are discoverable; whilst, at about a quarter of a league to the west, a mountain rises in form of a trapezium, whose regularity and exact symmetry give it the appearance of an enormous entrenchment.

On leaving Almanza, we come to that part of the plain which was, in 1707, the theatre of a bloody battle between the combined armies of France and Spain, and the Portugueze, English, and German, who supported the cause of the archduke Charles. This memorable victory, which the duke of Berwick gained, and which secured the throne of Spain to Philip V, is commemorated by an obelisk, about fourteen feet high, surmounted by a lion, and placed on a large pedestal, ascended by three steps. On each of the four sides of the pedestal were inscriptions in Latin and in Spanish, but it was built with so soft a stone, that this monument is already defaced; the inscriptions are almost illegible; the lion no longer exists, and a little statue has been substituted for him, which will not last longer. This plain leads to the mountain of Almanza: when arrived at the summit, we pass a bridge of the same name; here we discover a pleasing country, of great extent, and well cultivated. At length we reach the Venta del Puerto, where the kingdom of Murcia ends, and that of Valencia commences.

The road which we have just travelled from Albacete has been lately made; it is wide, and good, and is a continuation of the fine road that leads from Madrid and Aranjuez, by La Mancha, to that town.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT RELATIVE PARTICULARLY TO THE KINGDOM OF MURCIA.

Population. The kingdom of Murcia has never been thoroughly repeopled since the expulsion of the Moors; its population has hardly ever varied. This country is filled with mountains, which are for the most part steep, dry, and parched, sterile, or uncultivated; the villages are also almost parched, and produce but little in the hands of the indolent Murcian husbandman. The first are uninhabited, and the latter have so middling a population that they are hardly worth counting.

The Campos, that is to say, plains, have but few inhabitants, and are also parched, though the soil is better, and sometimes excellent. The Murcian dreads labour, and prefers going to the Huerta, where the earth yields every thing, almost without labour; the consequence is that the plains are not populous. The Huerta, that is to say, the valley, which is watered by the river Segura, presents a striking contrast; every place here is inhabited; the cottages are built in rows, and there are a great number of settlements; within a space of about eight leagues in length, and from one and a half to two in breadth, there are individuals sufficient to form more than the third of the inhabitants of the whole province.

They reckon but one hundred and eight settlements, cities, towns, villages, and hamlets; and according to the enumeration of the people in 1787 and 1788, there is only a population of 337,686 inhabitants. This number is but ill proportioned to the extent of this province. It is about 1,100 square leagues, and is capable of containing double the

the number of persons. In the present population are counted:

Parish Priests	101
Secular Priests	976
Monks	2000
Nuns	646
Nobles	4704
Advocates	168
Writers	
Students	902
Servants	6408

Agriculture. A parched and dry soil is frequently found in Murcia, near land that might be easily and abundantly watered; and a soil which appears unproductive bordering on some that possesses the most active principles of vegetation. The former is neglected as too troublesome, and the latter producing too easily, prevents the husbandman from attending with care, attention, or intelligence. The land in this country is divided into Campo, which means dry land, Huerta, or watered land; both the one and the other are plains; we may therefore add another division, that is, the mountains and the valleys.

The Huerta is uncommonly fertile, the earth is excellent, and can be watered at pleasure: it comprehends the whole of the superb valley through which the Segura runs, that is to say, about nine or ten leagues, on an unequal breadth of from one league and a half to two leagues. We have already remarked that it is the best peopled, and cultivated in preference to any other. It would produce every thing; but the only thing they sow is corn, and there are scarcely any other trees here than mulberries, and a few olives.

The Campos are no doubt of as good a soil, and might be rendered as fertile; but water is so scarce here, that it is frequently wholly wanting, and therefore a very small portion only can be fertilized. These plains are absolutely dried up, and

appea

appear almost burned by the intense heat of the sun: yet, they nevertheless make a considerable return; their productions are more varied, and sometimes more abundant, than those of the Huerta. A little rain suffices to vivify and give a promise of the most productive harvests.

We have already given a description of the superb campo of Lorca; that of Carthagena is not inferior. The bottom is a sort of red earth extremely productive, frequently returning sixty fold. The plain of Albacete is equally fertile; and that of Villena, does not yield to it in any respect; we might still cite some others rich in productions, and others again that are totally neglected, and which would be highly productive, if cultivated with diligence.

Valleys. These are not all alike in the quality of the land: some of them appear to have an unproductive soil, a white earth, without substance, and dusty, and are of course entirely given up by the farmer; there is no house or vestige of cultivation to be seen there; yet there are parts adjacent, apparently of the same soil, which industry has fertilized, proofs of which are to be seen in the great valley before we come to Albatana; but then the land would require a strict and constant labour, and the Murcian is not adapted to fatigue, nor is the province sufficiently peopled to extend such enterprises.

Mountains. From what has been said, we may easily imagine that no kind of culture has been attempted on the mountains; and yet there are some, the soil of which would do excellently either for vines, or olive-trees. The Murcians have before their eyes the example of their neighbours, the laborous Valencians, who can turn even steep mountains to advantage, and carry cultivation to the very tops of them; the example however is lost upon them; through indifference, or from habit, they will not follow it; in short, they dread labour and fatigue.

Irrigation and Produce. The kingdom of Murcia is a very dry country, the Segura being the only considerable river that runs through it: and the bed of it too, is frequently too low

low to allow of the water being conveyed over the lands to any extent. The other rivers are the Guardavar, which is often without water, and which runs only a course of three leagues almost always between mountains; the Benamor, which is neither larger nor more advantageous; the Arroyo de Betleem, which is often passed with dry feet, and the Guadalentin, which runs through a corner of it for fifteen leagues, half way among mountains, and contains in general very little water. The climate of this province is very hot, the summers are scorching, and the lands dried up by the burning heat of the sun; but in spite of this the soil is very productive; the most careless cultivation suffices to reward the pains of the husbandman, and the return it makes is even prodigious, when any rains fall in the course of the year. There are some other scattered waters, some springs and streamlets: the Moors took care to collect these and keep them in reservoirs, and could distribute them skilfully, for watering their lands; but those reservoirs are almost all destroyed: one of them is yet to be seen on leaving Lebrilla. The bason of Lorca has been mentioned, which was constructed in imitation of them, but which was, no doubt, of too immense an extent. There remain, in this province, other monuments of the industry of the Moors, in the art of keeping water in a body, conveying it, and making use of it in watering lands. Two grand reservoirs, so solidly constructed as to have resisted the attacks of time for ages, from six to seven hundred years, are preserved entire, near the town of Murcia: there are also some of their canals remaining, which are still made use of in watering a part of the Huerta, to an extent of four leagues and a half.

About thirty years ago a canal was projected to pass through a part of the south and east of the kingdom of Murcia, for the purpose of watering a number of little plains, chiefly of the Campo de Lorca and Campo de Carthagena. This was a grand project, and would have spread the greatest opulence

opulence throughout this province. It was begun, but soon abandoned.

The Murcian cultivates in the old way of his fathers: he makes furrows on the surface of the earth, he sows or plants always the same thing, he reaps and rests, without ever dreaming of the possibility of making any farther use of the land till the time comes about again when his routine calls upon him to begin afresh. He does not yet know any thing of the art of watering; he conveys the water without attending to the time for using of it, or to the quantity necessary to be distributed, or to the grounds to be selected, or to the time of its continuation, according to the changes of the atmosphere, the quality of the soil, and the nature of the production.

One would expect to find this beautiful Huerta of Murcia replete with agreeable productions, to see in it vegetables of every kind, and to meet with orange, pomegranate and citron tress, and pine apples. All this was the case when the land belonged to a people called Barbarians, to the Moors, who were the most intelligent agriculturists Spain ever had. It is still the case on a portion of the same soil, not belonging to the Murcians, but to Valencians, and to the inhabitants of the territory of Orihuela, their neighbours, of whom they purchase the necessaries which they might and should gather in abundance, and sell to others. It is a fact that almost all the fruit and vegetables consumed at Murcia, come from Orihuela in Valencia.

We scarcely see any thing but corn and mulberry-trees in the Huerta; vegetables and herbs are very scarce, and there is not a fruit tree. These are raised in the Campo de Lorca and the Campo de Carthagena, at Lebrilla, Tartana, Albacete, and Villena.

Corn then is the chief production of the kingdom of Murcia: in some parts they grow wheat, in others rye. The crop upon an average yields 1,200,000 fanegas, which sell for about

about 38,400,000 reals of vellon, or 400,000l. sterling. This is in years when the harvest is tolerably good; in very dry years the quantity of corn reaped in this province is not sufficient for its own wants. The corn of Huerta is finest when fresh; it gets shrivelled as it dries, loses weight considerably, and gives more bran than flour. That of the dry districts keeps best, is more palatable and weighty, containing more flour: this difference may arise from the others being too much moistened by an over frequency of watering. The cultivation of barley is very extensive, principally in the countries about Carthagena, Lorca, Carvaja, and Albacete; the quantity is estimated, one year with another, at 380,000 arobas, or 95,000 quintals, which, at twenty-six reals the quintal, gives an amount of 9,880,000 reals of vellon, or 102,916l. sterling.

Kali is an object equally important. The quantity gathered yearly is estimated at 200,000 quintals. It is commonly sold at fifty reals, or 10s. 5d. sterling the quintal, which makes 10,000,000 reals of vellon, or 104,166l. sterling.

There are vineyards at Carthagena, Sar, Jumilla, Alhama, Villena, at several other places, and particularly in the country about Albacete, which yields more than all the rest of Murcia, as the quantity of wine made there every year is estimated at 800,000 arobas, or 200,000 quintals, whereas that of all the other districts scarcely amounts to 120,000 quintals, a quantity not sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants two-thirds of the year. The price of this wine is generally 4s. 2d. the quintal, which gives an amount of 6,400,000 reals, or 66,666l. sterling. It is luscious, full of lees, thick, and hard, which may be owing to the manner of making it. The country about Carthagena produces the best; it also yields a sweet wine which is agreeable and delicate, of the same quality as that of Alicant, which it equals in goodness.

They cultivate spart, chiefly in the country about Carthagena, which, in the time of the Romans, was so covered with it,

it, that Pliny tells us, it furnished the common people with materials for bedding, clothes, shoes, and fire. It was on this account that Carthagena received the name of Carthago Spartaria; it is still used for making shoes. Though the cultivation of it is much decreased, it continues to be of importance enough to furnish a branch of exportation.

Saffron is also an important object; it is cultivated in some parts of Murcia, but chiefly in the country of Albacete: they gather about a hundred and fifty quintals yearly, which, at the rate of sixty reals, or 12s. 6d. the pound, produces about 900,000 reals of vellon, or 9,375l. sterling.

We may sometimes travel several leagues in this kingdom without seeing trees, or very few, and those of no variety; none but mulberry and olive, and here and there some poplars; there are rather more oaks; in some places they are numerous enough. A wood of carobs conceals the approach of Almanza: some palm, orange, and lemon-trees appear scattered, but so few that they cannot be an object of income.

Olive-trees are common enough; they are numerous at Jumilla, Lorca, and Sar; not so much so at Molina, Lebrilla, Alhama, Tatana, Cantillo, &c. The oil they produce appears bad, owing to a fault in the making of it. About 160,000 arobas are usually made every year*, which, at the rate of thirty-six reals of vellon, or 7s. 6d. each, makes 5,760,000 reals of vellon, or 60,000l. sterling. There is not enough of this oil to supply the province.

Mulberry-trees are still more numerous; there are a great many at Lebrilla, Tatana, Alhama, and Lorca; the Huerta of Murcia is full of them. Scarcely any other trees are seen, which creates a tiresome sameness, and diminishes the beauty of the country in the eye of the stranger. They are all white mulberries, which are cut or pruned every third year: their return is immense in respect to the great quantity of silk-worms

* The aroba of Castile, which for oil is equal to the mark weight of twenty five livres.

bred

bred here: about 500,000 pounds weight of silk are spun every year, which generally sells for fifty reals, or 10s. 5d. the pound. The total value may therefore be computed at 25,000,000 of reals, or 260,416l. sterling.

Hemp is here of superior quality; the cultivation of it is the more easy, as water is very abundant: it is however neglected, and the quantity of the crop is inconsiderable.

Pastures. Several of the mountains of Murcia are covered with excellent pasturage, but are in a manner useless; there are very few cows or sheep in this province. They would, however, be highly beneficial, particularly to the Huerta, where the continual washing of the lands by irrigation, renders a frequency of dunging more necessary.

TABLE OF THE PRODUCTIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF MURCIA.

Produce.	*Quantity.*	*Value in Reals of Vellon.*	THEIR AMOUNT.	
			In Reals of Vellon.	*In Sterling.*
		per lb.		*s. d.*
Wine	320,000 quint.	20	6,400,000	66,666 13 6
Saffron	150 quint.	60	900,000	9,375 0 0
Silk	500,000 lbs	50	25,000,000	260,416 13 4
Wheat	1,200,000 faneg	32	80,000,000	833,333 6 8
Oil	160,000 arobas.	36	5,760,000	60,000 0 0
Barley	95,000 quint.	26	9,880,000	102,916 13 4
Kali	200,000 quint.	50	10,000,000	104,166 13 4
			137,940,000	1,436,875

Some articles are omitted in this Table, from the difficulty of ascertaining their amount, such as the sweet wine of Carthagena, spart, hemp, and vegetables.

Manufactures. This country might have the raw materials for some manufactures that would then be of importance. As we have already said, hemp succeeds here capitally where it is cultivated; it is soft and pliant, and has long and substantial

tial fibres. Flax also thrives here, and good and beautiful linens might be made of it. This branch, unknown in Murcia, would introduce into it a kind of substantial industry, which would habituate the people to employment, feed a great number of poor, and bring in sums the more considerable, as the fine linens used by the Spaniards come from abroad. In Murcia they make only coarse linen, which is exposed for sale in the markets. There is no establishment on a large scale. It is chiefly made at Villena, Almanza, and the environs of Murcia.

This province has the raw materials of other manufactures no less important. In the first place, it has a prodigious quantity of silk-worms, which are not turned to advantage; most of the raw silks are sold to the neighbouring provinces, and manufactured silk is imported from foreign looms, though the inhabitants might manufacture their own materials, and make it an article of considerable exportation. The town of Murcia is the only place where they work some small quantity; there they manufacture a few slight silks, chiefly taffetas, and velvets, but of an inferior quality; and the whole is confined to a small number of looms. They make a much greater quantity of ribbons, in which twelve hundred looms are employed; but they are badly dyed, and have not a good gloss. The Murcians likewise prepare the raw silk, spin, and twist it; they have even a warden, and a great number of masters in this business, and, in spite of its importance, they carry it on without being subject to any superintendence, every one doing as he pleases: the consequence is, that the silk is badly prepared, and spun unequally; the threads are collected without any method, sometimes more, sometimes less, and then twisted unequally; they are of course unfit to make fine stuffs, and the trade of Murcia is therefore declining. The government, sensible of this, endeavoured to counteract it by a method subject to particular rules; they instituted a great establishment, to be under the direction of an able man, and they granted the concern to a foreigner, whom they assisted with privileges

privileges and money; but their hope was disappointed, the funds were misapplied, and the establishment fell to the ground. Since then it has been raised by a company of the *gremios*, or corporation of Madrid; the silk is spun, collected, and twisted. The establishment and its dependencies employ almost the whole year through, about twelve hundred persons of all ages. It has been productive of some good; it has renewed and extended the breeding of silk-worms throughout Murcia, and it keeps in Spain a great quantity of raw materials, which were sent abroad, and came back again in a manufactured state; for, to the establishment, there has been added a manufactory of silks, like that of Talavera de la Reyna.

The other manufactories of the kingdom of Murcia are of little importance. They make soap at Villena and at Murcia, which supplies a small part of the consumption. Earthenware is made at Murcia, but scarcely enough to supply that town and its neighbourhood.

At Albacete they manufacture cutlery, which has a considerable name, but which however does not merit the kind of reputation given to it. This cutlery partly remains in the country, and is partly sent abroad; the value of the exportation is about 480,000 reals, or 5000l. sterling.

There are distilleries of brandies at Sar and Villena, but of little importance. We have already said, that spart is worked; shoes, mats of various kinds, baskets, cordage, and package covering are made of it. This work is done by private persons at their own houses: the country-people employ themselves a good deal in it at leisure times. There are manufactories of saltpetre and of gunpowder at Murcia, both of them very considerable, and on the king's account.

Commerce. From all that has been said, and which need not be repeated here, Murcia might be in a state to carry on a brisk trade of considerable importance. The maritime situation of the province, and the ports of Carthagena and Las Aquilas, would be very favourable to a foreign commerce; but the bad state of the roads would be injurious to the inland trade

trade with the other provinces of Spain. It has too few commodities to extend and support a foreign commerce, as it has first to provide for the wants of its own inhabitants. A great deal of the fruits, herbs, and pulse, come from the kingdom of Valencia; the corn, in years when the harvest is bad, is below mediocrity, and not sufficient for it; it must therefore import some from other places. It has been shown that it was almost the same with respect to wine. The objects of commerce are therefore reduced to the following. Cutlery, which goes into the kingdom of Valencia, New Castile, and La Mancha; the exportation of it amounts to about 5000l. sterling: ribbons, most of which are sent to Madrid; it amounts annually to nearly 2083l. 6s. 8d. sterling: formerly a great quantity of spart was sent out of Murcia in stakes to foreign markets, but the exportation was so shackled, that this branch has totally failed; it is now only exported in a manufactured form, and it is then sold in La Mancha and New Castile, particularly at Madrid. The estimate of this exportation annually amounts to about 400,000 reals, or 4166l. 13s. 4d. sterling. About 800,000 arobas, or 200,000 quintals of Albacete wine are made yearly on an average; one-fourth is consumed in the country, and nearly 600,000 arobas, or 150,000 quintals, are sent to Madrid, under the name of La Mancha wine; which produces from 3,000,000 to 3,150,000 reals, that is to say, from 31,250l. sterling, to 32,812l. 10s.

Part of the sweet wine of Carthagena passes into foreign countries, but in small quantities; it is not sufficiently known, though it is not inferior to the wine of Alicant, for which it might be substituted. Most of the silk is exported; about sixty thousand pound weight is all that is consumed in Murcia, the rest goes to Toledo, to Talavera de la Reyna, and other towns of Spain; it produces an amount of 229,166l. 13s. 4d. sterling. In years of indifferent harvest, the quantity of surplus corn exported to other provinces, may be estimated at 400,000 fanegas, making an object of 12,000,000 reals, or 125,000l. sterling, which, considering the difference of the harvests

harvests, may be reduced, upon an average, to the half of that sum. Most of the barley raised, is consumed in the province; not above 200,000 arobas, or 50,000 quintals, are usually sent yearly into Catalonia and Andalusia by sea; the produce of it is about 13,541l. 13s. 4d. sterling.

Kali is exported to foreign countries, and is computed to produce 10,416l. 13s. 4d. sterling. They raise a great deal of saffron. Albacete furnishes every year forty or fifty thousand pezos of it, equivalent to seven or eight thousand pounds sterling. A part is consumed in Murcia, and two-thirds of it go to La Mancha, Castile, and Valencia; which produces 4,687l. 10s. sterling. Adding here the work necessary in preparing the silk which is sent out of Murcia, it may furnish for the annual Table of Exports, estimated at the lowest, a sum of 36,666l. sterling.

Articles of Commerce.	*Quantity.*	AMOUNT.	
		In Reals of Vellon.	*Sterling.*
			£.
Cutlery		480,000	5,000
Ribbons		200,000	2,083
Spart worked		400,000	4,166
Albacete wine	150,000 quint.	3,000,000	31,250
Silk	440,000 lb.	22,000,000	229,166
Wheat	200,000 fanegas.	6,000,000	64,500
Barley	50,000 quint.	1,300,000	13,541
Kali	200,000 quint.	10,000,000	104,166
Saffron	125 quint.	240,000	2,500
The work in preparing Silk for exportation		3,520,000	36,666
		47,940,000	493,038

It follows, however, that the export trade of the kingdom of Murcia is tolerably valuable, though nothing very extraordinary: the value of it, indeed, is decreased by its imports. It receives beef and mutton, almost all the fruits, a great quantity of pulse and herbs, some oil, corn at times in indifferent years, a considerable quantity of wines, spices, almost all the linens, all cloths and woollens, most of the silk stuffs, gilt

gilt ware, iron-ware, and all the articles of luxury: the last are of little importance, there being very little luxury in this province. Notwithstanding this, the balance is in favour of the exports, which annually bring some wealth into the country. But this observation only renders the mode of living here the more inconceivable; far from any appearance of opulence, or even of ease, there is nothing to be seen on all sides but privations, straitened circumstances, and distress.

There are three great fairs every year in this province; held in the month of September, at Murcia, Lorca, and Albacete: they last several days. Those of the two first are said to have been formerly very brilliant; they have greatly fallen off: that of the last supports itself better; it is principally for cattle.

Roads, Carriages, and Inns. Almost all the roads in this province of Spain are what nature has made them. Nothing has been done by art to ease the steepness of the mountains, over which we are perpetually obliged to climb, nor has any thought been given to decrease the inconveniences of the narrow passes in the way. We frequently travel on bare marble and rugged rocks, where it has never occurred to any one to sprinkle even a little earth. There are, indeed, parts of the road less unpleasant: where it runs through valleys and plains, it is level and firm; such is that part leading from Albacete to Pozo de la Cañada, that through the valleys following the great road from Albacete to Murcia, and that through the plain of Betleem.

The roads in the Huerta about Murcia, are hardly cleared; he two leading from that town to Orihuela, though on even ground, are narrow, badly kept, and cut up by deep ruts; one of them is so muddy and undefended from the overflowings of the river, that it is impassable in autumn and winter.

There are, however, some very fine roads in this province: that leading from Molina to Murcia, which crosses over mountains expressly cut through and opened; it is broad, smooth, well kept, and the steepness of the ascents is very much eased: at Torre de Espinardo it becomes still finer, whence it crosses the

the Huerta in a right line to the gates of the capital, raised in the form of a causeway. The road from Murcia to Carthagena is equally good, except at one place, where it is not carried on. Lastly, that of Lorca to the port of Los Aquilas, which has already been mentioned, is of uncommon firmness.

In Murcia coaches, calashes, and *volantes*, are the carriages for travellers. The carts are drawn by mules two abreast. The country people have little carts drawn by oxen. There is a great number of small waggons, many of which are drawn only by asses. Asses are here very serviceable; they are made use of to carry burdens in towns, through the country, and to considerable distances. Troops of these animals set out every day from Murcia for Madrid with loads, some of which are very heavy.

There are no inns in Murcia except at Carthagena, where there are three tolerable good ones, kept in the French style. Every where else there are only posadas, most of them bad; the most pitiful, next to the Venta Roman, are those of the capital of Murcia; that of Albacete is the least intolerable.

Natural History. Murcia presents a vast field for natural history; it is a new quarry which no naturalist has yet attempted to penetrate, though it well deserves his researches. The mountains undoubtedly contain riches which ought not to be hurried over superficially, but it is laborious to travel over this country during the violent heats of summer, particularly for a stranger unaccustomed to it.

It is said that these mountains are covered with medicinal plants, and that there are wild boars on Pinar and the Sierra de Carascoy: the latter appears to be the loftiest.

Lead mines have been discovered near the village of Los Alumbres, and near Lorca; the latter was formerly worked.

There are traces of an old copper mine near Lorca.

There are also traces of a mine said to have been very rich in silver, near Almazarrou, on the chain of mountains running towards the sea, on the Carthagena side.

There is a sulphur mine near Hellin, and a tract of country replete with the same mineral extending four leagues near Ulasparra.

A bole, a good deal resembling the Armenian bole, abounds near Fortuna.

There are lands about Murcia, and in the valleys near Lorca, which contain a great quantity of nitre. There are evident vestiges of two mines of alum, which were formerly worked; one in a cave, on a mountain near Carthagena; the other in a marble quarry, near the hamlet of Alum, a league from the mountain where St. John's Cave is, of which we shall presently speak, between that mountain and Carthagena.

Feathered alum, or false asbestos, is found near the village of Almanzarrou, the situation of which is mentioned above.

A part of Monte Agudo, situated between Murcia and Orihuela, is full of fossils of different kinds.

Some hills between Murcia and Mula are of a brown freestone, which crumbles in ploughed lands.

The mountain on which the Cueva de San Juan, or St. John's cave is, abounds with rocks of ferruginous lime, intermixed with white, red, and blue rock crystals.

The environs of the village of Almanzarrou, situated on the chain of mountains running towards the sea, near Carthagena, are full of a fine red earth, without any mixture of sand, which is used for polishing the plate-glass at the manufactory of St. Ildefonso, and for steeping the Spanish snuff made at Seville. It is mixed with it, and fixes the volatile parts of the plant, at the same time that it gives it a colour, and a pleasant feeling and smell.

Rock-crystal is found on two mountains, one of which is to the east, and the other to the west of Carthagena, near some quarries of marble, mixed with slate.

The marbles are little diversified in the kingdom of Murcia; in the mountains just mentioned, they are found mixed with slate. There is a variegated marble near the streaked

hamlet of Alum, and there are large masses of white marble, streaked with red, which extend from the middle to the top of a very lofty mountain on the frontiers of the kingdom of Granada, to the north east.

There are eight caverns known in this province; one near Carthagena, where the traces of an alum mine are to be seen, and where there are four hot-springs; one on a mountain, near the sea, between Carthagena and Murcia; five very deep ones in the territory of Murcia; and one in a lofty mountain, three leagues from Carthagena; the last is called Cueva de San Juan, or St. John's cave, where there are a great number of palms. The five caverns in the territory of Murcia are considered as the remains of extinguished volcanoes, though without any grounds, and the last is looked upon as an old mine, but it appears to be a natural excavation.

There is a salt-pit, near Villena, two leagues in circumference, which yields a great deal of salt.

There are some cold mineral waters in Murcia, but little known, and of no importance. There are several hot springs: four in the cavern just mentioned, of which no use is made: the waters of Mula, seven leagues from Murcia; it has baths badly kept, and a good way from the village; the patients are lodged in barracks: the waters of Fortuna, four leagues from those of Archena; the patients there bathe in a large common bath, and the waters are also drunk: the waters of Almaha, six leagues from Murcia, three quarters of a mile to the right of the road leading from Murcia to Lorca; the spring is at the foot of the mountain; the patients bathe in a common bath in the middle of the town from which the name is taken; it has steps in it, and is of Moorish construction: the waters of Archena, four leagues and a half from Murcia; the spring is three quarters of a mile from the village; it is copious and very hot; its baths were famous under the Arabs, and probably under the Romans; some years ago in digging, to make a bath, the ruins of a large edifice were discovered, with the remains of columns, and a Roman inscription. Cerdan, a phy-

sician at Villena, wrote, in 1760, on the waters of Archena, but they have never been analysed: physicians send their patients there, without knowing why; they recommend them chiefly for paralytic and rheumatic cases; they advise them indiscriminately in all chronic disorders.

Climate. The sky of the kingdom of Murcia is very fine, always serene and blue; it is scarcely ever clouded, and fogs are unknown: rain is consequently very rare throughout the country; sometimes it does not fall once in the course of a year. The autumns are delightful, and of the most agreeable temperature; the winters are mild, and one has rarely occasion to warm one's self by a fire; the springs are sometimes stormy; the summers begin early, they are warm at first, and afterwards scorching hot. There are, however, local differences in the different parts of the province. The mountains of the north and the valleys they enclose, have summers equally warm, but the springs and autumns are cool, and the winters frequently very cold. The foot of the mountains on the south and in the vicinity of the sea are more temperate than the centre of the province; the climate of those mountains is cool enough: Lorca, and the Campo de Lorca, are more temperate than Murcia; this town, and its Huerta, are extremely hot, and in a manner almost insupportable. The heats are still more violent in the Campo de Carthagena. The clear sky of this province has gained it the name of the most serene kingdom.

Arts and Sciences. The Murcian finds an excuse for his indifference to the Arts and Sciences, in the total want of establishments that might enable him to pursue the study of them, without going out of his province. There are in fact only a few bad schools kept by Monks in their convents, where they teach scholastic theology, and a bad peripatetic philosophy. There is such a school under the government of the ecclesiastics in the town of Murcia, but it has the same radical defect; no lessons of dogmatic or positive theology are given there; they neither teach philosophy, properly so called, nor

nor natural philosophy, founded rationally on later discoveries. In the college of St. Fulgentius at Murcia, lectures are also given on the canon law. To these may be added a school for music and chanting, in the college of St. Leander at Murcia.

There are, however, some very excellent schools at Carthagena, but they are not open to the public, being entirely confined to pupils for the royal navy. They are of three kinds; the object of the first is to make good pilots: in this navigation, and all that concerns that branch is taught: the second is intended for marine cadets, who are instructed in the mathematics, experimental philosophy, and manœuvring: the third is a school of marine artillery, where they teach drawing, mathematics, pyrotechny, fortification, statics, hydrostatics, hydraulics, and areometry. There is likewise a small botanic garden, where a professor of botany gives lectures.

Nothing has been done for the arts in the kingdom of Murcia, nor, of course, are they much thought of; there is no artist, nor even a tolerable workman to be found in the country. The arts are in no manner of estimation. One person alone deserves to be excepted here, Don Jesualdo Riquelme, of one of the oldest families of Murcia, who, without masters, without any assistance but what he derived from books, impelled by the desire of instructing himself, and of devoting to the furnishing of his mind with useful knowledge the time which others spend in idleness, acquired a sufficient fund of information to appreciate works of art, and to give to artists the degree of esteem they deserve. This nobleman died a few years ago.

There are, nevertheless, two public libraries at Murcia, but they are useless from their bad selection; and, besides, the Librarian is very often the only person in it. The Murcians pretend that reading hurts the eyes and injures the sight very early. A board of public Economy was established in the town, and it was hoped that it would excite and direct emulation;

emulation; an individual bequeathed it an annuity of about 20,000 reals, or 208*l.* sterling, for the encouragement of such as should discover any ardour or inclination for the progress of the sciences; but hitherto it appears that both the founder and benefactor were mistaken, the board seldom meet, and their views are confined.

From what has been said, we may readily conceive that this province has produced no distinguished author or artist. Such as we find are as follow: a very indifferent historian of the beginning of the 17th century, whose name was Francisco Cascales; another author, even inferior to him, of the beginning of the 18th century, named Polo de Medina, whose works are read by nobody; Didan Alarcon of Albacete has been already mentioned; Antonio de Agraz of the same place, and Juan Azor of Lorca, which town also gave birth to Juan de Toledo, a good soldier and a good painter, who died in 1655; Francisco Correal was of Carthagena; he was a sailor and turned freebooter; he wrote a narrative of his voyages in the East Indies from 1666 to 1697. His work as to style is bad, but we find the simple and ingenuous language of truth, a rare quality in this sort of narratives: his work was translated into French, and printed at Amsterdam in 1722.

Character, Manners, and Customs of the Inhabitants. "The children are so mother-sick, that it is with difficulty they can bring themselves to lose sight of the pinnacles of their towers; and hence comes it, that few Murcians are seen at the universities, still fewer in the army, and hardly any at sea. The people are addicted to good cheer, and idleness*." Such is the picture drawn, even by a Spanish author, of the Murcians.

The principal feature of the Murcian's mode of existence, is

* "... Sus hijos son tan amartelados de su madre, que con dificuldad se resolven a perder de vista los chapiteles de sus torres; y de aqui nace que pocos Murcianos se ven en las universidades, menos en los exercitos y raros en las navegaciones... la gente esta dada al regalo y al ocio..."

MURILLO, Geog. Histor. de Espana.

a decided

a decided habit of idleness. This defect in education, is no doubt, a general reproach to them throughout Spain: it is common to all conditions.

Such of the Murcians, as have easy incomes never turn their minds to any kind of employment: true happiness with them is to be found in bed, at table, and in smoaking cigars. They give a few moments in the day to external acts of devotion. They never open a book, and the only information they seek is by prying into the conduct of their neighbours. They sleep twice a day; at night, and in the afternoon, and for a long time. They regularly make five meals: two breakfasts, the first of chocolate, the second of a pimento-dish, dinner, afternoon chocolate, and supper at night. Every other hour is spent in smoaking cigars, in which they take great pleasure, and go to it very deliberately; they sit down without saying a word, and smoak with the greatest gravity; they are then in such a state of torpid bliss, that if every thing were going to destruction about them, they would not condescend to move.

The shop-keeper and mechanic sleep likewise twice, and make the same number of meals, the one in his shop, the other in his work-room; they frequently in the course of the day, leave their business to smoak cigars, to which they attach similar importance. They go to work late, and leave it early, and while at it, seem to apply with more languor than thought; they break off when they speak, they stop when they have to answer a question; they have no idea of working and talking at the same time; before they resume their work, they take a pinch of snuff, and that so leisurely, that a stranger cannot but wonder at it. Were we to reckon the time which they lose in the morning before they begin, that which they cut short in leaving off early, that of their five meals, that which they devote to sleep in the afternoon, that which they waste in frequently stopping to speak, smoak, and take snuff, we should find, that they scarcely give a quarter of the day to their work.

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It is the same thing with the peasant, or the journeyman. He has still a greater number of meals, though more moderate; he often quits his business to lie down and sleep, and he works with equal indifference.

The women are equally indolent. Those of rank, or who are rich, make the same meals, sleep afterwards, and spend the rest of their time in sitting almost always with their arms folded. They never take up a book, or employ themselves in any of those little works that are useful in a family, and which naturally belong to women. They are very seldom seen with a needle in their hand; they do not sew, or embroider, or even knot. We are much more surprised to see the same indolence among the women of the lower class. Sloth is so rooted among them, that if a family want a servant, they will not be able to get one in the summer time, and many of those in service, leave their place in the beginning of that season, when the earth pours forth its productions in abundance; they then easily procure sallads, some fruits, melons, and above all pimento: these suffice for their nourishment, and are sold so cheaply, that for half a real, or a penny farthing, they support themselves the whole day, declaring it to be a folly to fatigue themselves with labour, when they can find enough to live upon.

In short, this supineness or indolence is carried to such a pitch, that when ladies and gentlemen agree to take the trouble of going to any walk, they no sooner get there than they all sit down, they are so afraid of fatiguing themselves!

The apathy of the Murcians must appear inconceivable, to those acquainted with the happy situation of their country, its capacity of affording immense wealth with little labour, and the ready vents to turn it to great advantage, for Carthagena is the best port in Spain; but nothing can force the Murcians from their state of inactivity. This vice of nature keeps them from speculations which would be advantageous to the general welfare: it absorbs in them whatever desire they might have to go abroad; they maintain no intercourse

even

even with the neighbouring provinces, and consequently none with foreigners.

The Murcians then are pretty generally confined to their homes, where they lead an unvaried gloomy life, every one appearing solitary in the heart of a great country: hence their manners have contracted a wild and embarrassed air, which has an effect upon all they do, and influences every moment of their existence. They do not visit, families scarcely ever assemble, and they seem frightened in the company of strangers, whom they shun. Even at Murcia, though a stranger on his arrival receives some visits, they are made merely out of curiosity, and when he returns them, he is frequently refused admission.

One day follows another in the same dull round: the Murcians indulge in no kind of amusements, not even the most common every where else. Music and dancing, so much enjoyed in the other provinces of Spain, particularly in the two nearest to the Murcians, Valencia and Andalusia, where they are passionately pursued, have no attraction for them: they scarcely ever dance, and sing still seldomer. One might at first mistake all this reserve for wisdom.

The people, who have gloomy countenances, are likewise more boorish and fierce than those of the neighbouring provinces: this is seen in their looks, and proved by their actions. Murcia often exhibits scenes of contention, and sanguinary vengeance.

The Murcians are not very nice in what they eat; delicate viands rarely appear at their tables: they live chiefly on the commonest vegetables. Among these, pimento holds the chief place, and is never omitted at any meal; a Murcian would not think that he had dined, if he did not eat of it: it is a principal ingredient in the food of the common people. There is a general prejudice against beef in Murcia; nobody eats it: the people look upon those who have it brought to table as Jews. Of course, it is not to be purchased at Murcia;

cia; whoever chuses it must send for it to Orihuela, three leagues distant.

This province then, from its manners and habits, has no resemblance to any other in Spain, and it is inconceivable, how these can have become so uncivilized and repulsive, under so fine a sky, and on so excellent a soil; they were gentler in the time of the Moors, whom the Murcians, nevertheless, treat as barbarians, though in succeeding to their property, they did not preserve their activity, industry, and civilization.

There is one town, and but one, in the kingdom of Murcia, where the manners are totally different, and that is Carthagena, where we find affability, society, amusements, and pleasures. In entering this town, after travelling through Murcia, we may think ourselves in a new country: here strangers are well received, and the inhabitants are very sociable; but then, for it must not be concealed, there are very few Murcians amongst them; most of them are foreigners, consisting of English, French, and Italians, and are either merchants, or sailors, or soldiers. There is sometimes a considerable garrison at Carthagena, and its harbour is a port for the royal navy, which fills the town with a good number of officers of every rank, and agents, and clerks of all kinds.

There is no luxury in Murcia, either in dress or furniture; this, however, is not owing to a want of wealth, but to economy in the inhabitants.

The women's clothes are the same as in the other parts of Spain; but instead of those beautiful plain sattin, or velvet *basquinas**, of those tassels and fringes which adorn them, of those elegant shoes and stockings, of those rich, showy, and elegantly varied *redecillas*†, of those *mantilles*‡, of fine muslin plain, or embroidered, of gauze, or crape, trimmed with lace,

* Petticoats. † Nets. ‡ Hoods, or head dresses.

seen

seen every where else, we here find the feet neglected, serge basquinas, plain and unornamented redecillas, and heavy dismal mantilles. Instead of the head-dresses so becoming to the Spanish ladies, we have flat, sleek, and shining black hair; and the Murcian ladies carry in their hands a large chaplet of very big beads, hanging almost to the ground, even when they are not going to church.

With respect to the men, the military, the merchants, the judges, and the principal clerks, are always dressed in the French fashion. The common people, in towns, wear a round hat, a black net on the head, a black waistcoat, and a large black or brown mantle. The nobility display a striking contrast in their modes of dressing: on gala days, and days of great ceremony, they are seen in clothes of the French fashion, covered with enormous gold and silver embroideries; but the moment the ceremony is over, they change them, and appear in the commonest clothes: many of them delight in making the change from the rich apparel to one completely like that of the common people; the round hat, net waistcoat, and mantle, the stuff only being finer, and more ornamented; the mantle is of cloth in winter, and of slight silk in summer.

The countryman, instead of a mantle, wears a piece of coarse woollen striped stuff, about half an ell wide and two ells long, which he throws over his shoulders; sometimes he lets it hang down both before and behind; at others he folds it under the opposite arm, crossing it over his back and breast. He wears a white jacket, which looks like a large waistcoat, and sometimes a red woollen girdle; his breeches are white, straight, short, without band or garter, and extremely wide: his shoes are made of spart or hemp cords, and so are those of the women. He sometimes wears a hat, but more frequently a montera, or leathern cap. To look at him in the fields, with his naked sun-burnt legs, his wide breeches, his white jacket blown about by the wind, his montera, and his tanned face, he might be taken for a Moor from the coast of Africa.

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The province of Murcia has no language peculiar to itself. The Castilian is spoken, but corrupted by a mixture of Arabic and Valencian, so that a Castilian is at a loss to understand a great number of expressions in familiar use.

The Murcians use in their houses little jars called Bucaros, the same as those which in some parts of Andalusia are called Alcarrazas. They have handles open at top, are smaller at the bottom than above, and bulge in the middle; they are slight, porous, smooth, and half baked: they are made of a peculiar kind of clay. When water is put into them, they emit a smell like that sent up by the earth after a shower of rain in summer. The water makes its way very slowly through the pores, and keeps them constantly moist on the outside: they are used to cool water for drinking. The windows and balconies of all the houses have large iron rings, with a flat surface, on which they are placed at night, and the water, oozing incessantly, becomes very cool*. In Andalusia some of these jars are white, and others red; in Murcia they have only white ones. They appear to be in every respect of the same nature as the evaporating vases of Africa, Egypt, Syria, and India, of which so much has been said by travellers, and on which the learned have made so many dissertations. By what fatality has it happened that those only which come from distant countries have been accounted worthy of attention, and those passed over in silence which have been in use in Murcia and Andalusia from time immemorial?

* These Jars are very common in Jamaica; they are of different sizes, from a pint to three pints. A number of them are ranged at night in the balconies, to furnish a supply of cool water.

Coolers of a similar kind have been lately introduced in England. T.

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THE KINGDOM OF ARAGON.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE KINGDOM OF ARAGON.

Aragon is one of the largest provinces of Spain, but one of the least populous, though the soil is fertile, and the climate temperate. It extends sixty-six leagues in length from north to south, and about forty in breadth from east to west. It is bounded on the north by Conserans, Comminges, and the Pyrences, which separate it from France; on the east by Catalonia, and part of the kingdom of Valencia; on the south, by that kingdom, and part of New Castile; on the west by Navarre, New and Old Castile. It has rivers, which were formerly navigable, and a canal which crosses part of it.

This country contains an archbishopric, six bishoprics, eight collegiate chapters, twenty-nine commanders of military orders, one thousand three hundred and ninety-six parishes, two hundred and twenty-eight convents, twenty-one hospitals, two asylums,

asylums, two universities, five colleges for youth, six military governments, twelve cities, two hundred and thirty-nine towns, and six hundred and eighty-eight villages. The principal towns are, Zaragoza (or Saragossa), an archbishop's see, and the capital of it; Jaca, Barbastro, Huesca, Tarazona, Albarrazin, Teruel, episcopal sees, and Daroca, Catalayud, &c.

Aragon is watered by three large rivers, the Minares, the Turia or Guadalaviar, and the Ebro, which is considerable, and capable of an important navigation, and by forty-four smaller ones: the country is very mountainous, yet intermixed with fertile plains and valleys, rich in productions of various kinds. The mountains are, that part of the Pyrenees which extends from Catalonia on the east, to Navarre on the west; considerable chains of these stretch themselves a great way into this and the neighbouring provinces. The most remarkable are, the Sierra de Molina, the Sierra d'Albarrazin, the Sierras de Cuença, which we shall notice when speaking of New Castile; the Sierras de Teruel, situated on the west; the Sierra de Sobrarbe; the mountains of Morata del Conde, between Almunia and Frasno; but the most famous is Mount Cayo, one of the highest in Spain; it is the terror of the adjacent country for twenty leagues round, from the storms which collect there. It is situated between Aragon, Castile, and Navarre. These mountains enclose a number of valleys;

leys, the principal of which are those of Anco, Araquis, Echo, Canfran, Tine, Broco, Bierla, Aure, Gistau, Venasque, Gistain, Puertolas, Bibile, Las Vejas del Tajo, Linarez, &c. This last lies between the mountains to the south of Aragon.

This province comprehends the country of the ancient Celtiberi, which included different people, as the Jacetani, the Lacetani, the Acitani, the Sedentani, the Sardones, and the Hergetes. After passing from the dominion of the Romans to that of the Goths in 470, it fell into the power of the Moors in 714, and was one of the last which was freed from them; and the inhabitants escaped only by parties, and at different times. A small district within it, was the first place where the Christians re-established their power. It was conquered by the French in 806; they appointed in it a court, feudatory to the kings of Navarre, who were also French, descended from the House of Bigorre: this county afterwards formed a small separate kingdom. The kings of Sobrarbe insensibly extended the limits of their dominions, by multiplying their conquests over the Moors, and they then gave to their states the name of the kingdom of Aragon, which began to grow considerable about the year 1067. At last it arrived at the extent which it possesses at present. When the Moors were driven out of Zaragoza in 1118, the kings Alphonso I, and Raymond Berenger, subdued those which remained in Aragon. By degrees the sovereigns

sovereigns of this country added to their crown two large provinces, the most beautiful and the richest in Spain: Catalonia, in 1137, by the marriage of Raymond Berenger, count of Barcelona, with Petronille, daughter and heiress of Ramire, king of Aragon; and the kingdom of Valencia, which was conquered by James I, in 1238. Aragon then formed a considerable kingdom, and the sovereigns of it sometimes took a part amongst the powers of Europe. But being at last united, in the fifteenth century, to the crown of Castile, by the marriage of its king, Ferdinand the Catholic with Isabella, heiress of the kingdoms of Castile and Leon, it was in a manner sunk in the new extent of the Spanish monarchy, of which it became only a province.

Aragon has, therefore, had its kings, but they found their authority extremely limited, by the members of the states of the country. The kings were neither able to make nor to change the laws without obtaining the consent of those members, and they were in a manner subordinate to the authority of a grand national judge, whose power was often superior to that of the prince, and sometimes made him tremble for his crown. The kingdom had laws and privileges, which concerned the monarch as well as the lowest subject; his infraction of them might cost him the throne. We know, that for a cause of this kind, king James I was arrested in 1224, at Alagon, conducted to Zaragoza;

goza, made a prisoner in his own palace without any communication, and kept in sight during twenty days. We know also the singular oath which the states administered to the king on his accession to the throne, and by which there was always an opening left for rebellion. "We, who "are equal to you, and who have more power "than you, make you our king, upon condition, "that you do not infringe our privileges; if not, "NOT*."

The states were composed at first of three orders, the grandees, or nobles attached to the court, the nobility, and the municipalities: the clergy were added in 1300. From that time, there were four orders, the clergy, the mesnadores†, that is, the grandees, the nobility, and the commons, who are called the *universidades*. They assembled on four different occasions; 1st, on the accession of the king to the crown, to do homage to him, and to administer the oath; 2dly, to deliberate

* Nos ostros, que somos tanto como vos, y que podemos mas que vos, vos hacemos a nuestro rey, con tanto que guardareis nuestros fueros, sino NO.

† Mesnada signifies properly, in the ancient language of the country, the collective body of the servants of a house, depending upon one another, and Mesnadores those servants individually. In Aragon the last name comprehended the nobles attached to the royal family. Mesnada, also means a body of soldiers commanded by their officer, and Mesnadores or Mesnaderes the nobility who led the troops which they had raised on their own estates.

upon the supplies and services which they ought to afford him, when they were necessary; 3dly, to agree to the establishment, alteration, or suppression of laws; and, 4thly, to debate upon the taxes, tributes, and duties that they should allow the prince.

Whilst the states thus acted in conjunction with the king in the legislation of the kingdom, an especial magistrate was the depository of the liberty of the people; this was the Justicia-mayor, whose office originated in the ninth century, the epocha of the kingdom of Sobrarbe; he was, according to the law of the time, a judge between the king and the nation, moderating the power of the monarch, and defending the interests of the people. He had a tribunal, of which he was the chief, composed of a great number of members, taken from the four orders which formed the states; there the cause of the king and the nation was decided, complaints were redressed, and the public liberty and privileges were guarded. The Justicia-mayor was become a more powerful man than the chief of the state; he was the much more formidable, from being generally respected as the man of the people; from judging the kings, and from being himself amenable to nobody. He sometimes abused his power: those abuses opened the eyes of the people; at last the states, held at Zaragoza, in 1467, subjected him to controul, deciding that he should himself be tried yearly by seventeen members of the states. This officer continued to exercise

cise his functions with the same authority under the Spanish monarchs of the house of Austria. He resisted Philip II; but that prince, who did not choose to have limits put to his authority, secretly sent troops into Aragon; he caused Juan de la Nuza, Justicia-mayor, to be arrested and beheaded, on the 20th December, 1591, at Zaragoza. The people, dismayed by this act of vigour, were deprived of their energy; they but feebly resisted in future for the preservation of their privileges. Thus was destroyed this high office, or rather say, its preponderance, and its authority.

The word *fueros*, or privileges, had been hitherto the rallying word of the Aragonese; it would have raised a rebellion from one end of the kingdom to the other, so jealous had the people become to preserve what they called their liberty. This word set all on fire, and they flocked together to run to arms. Philip II, profited by the consternation, that the violent execution of the Justicia had produced; he assembled the states at Tarazona, and made them pass a law, which prohibited the *cry of liberty* on pain of death. The adherence of Aragon to the party of the archduke Charles of Austria, furnished Philip V with a pretext for treating this province as a conquered country; having reduced it to his obedience by force of arms, he entirely suppressed the states on the 29th June, 1707. Aragon was subjected to the laws, usages, and customs of the crown of Castile.

A constitutional law, under the ancient kings, called all the males to the crown of Aragon, to the exclusion of the females; it was made in 1162 by queen Petronilla, daughter and heiress of king Ramirez. The states assembled at Lerida, in 1275, afterwards declared that the sceptre should never go from the direct line to the collateral line, while there were males of the former. This order of succession differed, however, considerably from the salic law, which not only excluded females from succession to the crown, but also their male issue, in favour of whom the representation is not allowed. In Aragon, on the contrary, this representation was admitted; the females transmitted to their male issue a right, which they did not possess themselves.

The ancient kings of Aragon founded two military orders. The first was that of Salvador, established in 1118, by king Alphonso I. Monreal del Campo, situated on the confines of the kingdoms of Aragon and Valencia, was its chief seat; the knights were of a religious order; they bore an image of the saviour of the world upon a white habit. The other was that of La Jarra* de Nuestro Senora, or of Las Azucenas, that is, the the jar of the Holy Virgin, or of the Lilies. It was founded in 1413, by King Ferdinand I, and destined to fight against the Moors, and to protect

* Jarra, is a vase with two handles; a sort of antique ewer.

widows

widows and orphans; it was given to the principal nobility of Aragon. The knights were military; they wore a collar of gold, terminated before by a jar, with lillies, to which was suspended a figure of the Holy Virgin, holding the infant Jesus in her arms, surrounded by stars. These two orders have been long extinct.

Road from the frontiers of Catalonia to Zaragoza, 22 leagues*.

Alcaraz, the last village of Catalonia, to Fraga, (a town)	
The Cinca, (a river, which has a wooden bridge)	3 leagues.
Venta de Fraga,	3
Candasnos, (a village)	2
Peñalva, (a village)	1
Bujaralos, (a village)	3
Venta de Santa Lucia,	½
Osera, (a village)	4
Puebla de Alfinden, (a village)	3½
The Galego, (a river, over which is a wooden bridge)	1½
The Ebro, (a river, over which is a wooden bridge)	½
Zaragoza, (a town)	

The entrance of Aragon resembles that part of Catalonia which we have just left; we find there the same kind of roads, and the same mountains.

* See the road from the frontiers of France, by Perpignan, Barcelona, to Zaragoza and Madrid.

After

After travelling for four hours, we arrive at Fraga, the first town in Aragon. We go down a very steep hill to it.

Fraga, the ancient town of the Ilergetes, called by Ptolemy, Galica Flavia, was a place of considerable importance under the Moors, and under the kings of Aragon; it even had a distinct king under the former, whose states, it is true, were very inconsiderable; it is at present reduced to a population of about three thousand souls. It is situated on the left bank, or east and north of the river Cinca, which bathes its walls, between two mountains on the sides of which it is built. The streets are narrow, crooked, hilly, and shockingly paved with sharp pebbles. The houses are very ill constructed, and have a bad appearance, most of them looking like huts, or ruins; whichforms an odd contrast with the armorial bearings with which many of them are decorated. This town is in the diocese of Lerida, in Catalonia; it is the residence of a vicar of the bishop, who is charged with the ecclesiastic jurisdiction of the part of Aragon in this diocese. It has two alcades, eight regidors, three gates, a convent of Grand-Augustins, and two parish churches which have nothing remarkable. A handsome quay has been lately built upon the bank of the river Cinca; it is narrow, but long; it would be pleasant enough, if it were shaded by trees, and lined by better built houses: it leads to a bridge, which will be mentioned.

This

This place was formerly a fortified town; it was defended by a castle, the ruins of which are to be seen on the top of the mountain. It sustained several sieges under the Moors; it resisted the armies of Aragon in 1133, and 1134, which were obliged to raise the siege and retire; it even saw Alphonso I, surnamed the Warrior, then king of Aragon, perish almost under its walls; this prince was killed, after bravely fighting in a battle on the 7th of September, 1134, near Sariñena, where the Aragonese troops were cut to pieces by the Moors. Fraga was at last taken in 1147, by Raymond Berenger, count of Barcelona, who had ascended the throne of Aragon, in consequence of his marriage with Petronilla*. He added this town to his dominions: at the commencement of the eighteenth century, it experienced the first efforts of the arms of the archduke Charles, in the earliest part of the war for the succession, and was taken in 1705, by his troops; but it was shortly afterwards retaken, and subjected to Philip V.

The Catalonian language is spoken at Fraga, and the manners of the inhabitants appear similar to those of the Catalonians. Here, the officers of the customs search travellers. On leaving Fraga, we go along the quay by the river side; it leads to a handsome wooden bridge, of twenty-two arches, over which we cross the river Cinca; this bridge

* It has been already mentioned, that this princess was the daughter and heiress of king Ramirez.

opens at the opposite end, into a large place, ornamented with stone seats, with a tolerably thick wood behind it. Upon the right, is seen, about two hundred yards up the road, a convent of capuchins, having an immense inclosure, and a large and beautiful garden. Half a league on we proceed in a valley highly cultivated, and embellished with a number of large and well kept gardens.

We ascend for the space of an hour by a tolerable road, but steep, and presently find ourselves surrounded by naked, parched mountains, and in frightful defiles, without perceiving any kind of habitation; we then enter an immense plain, bare, parched, and almost entirely uncultivated; for three hours we travel through this place, without seeing any house, except a miserable public-house, situated almost in the middle, called the Venta de Fraga. Here the Catalonian tongue begins to be dropped, and a bad Castilian spoken. This plain leads to Candamos, where we arrive, after travelling five leagues, from Fraga; it is a miserable little village, where we begin to perceive the manners of the Aragonese; it is also the first place on this road where there is no inn, there being only a posada, for lodgings; but this district is absolutely destitute of all kinds of provisions. The same plain brings us, after another mile, to the village of Peñalva, by the side of which we pass; this is equally uncultivated. It was the scene of a battle, fought

fought on the 15th August, 1710, between the troops of the archduke Charles, and those of Philip V, in which the latter were worsted. In half an hour we descend into a narrow passage, very dangerous, from its depth, windings, and extent; it is three quarters of an hour before we leave this place, when we enter upon a plain equally bare and uninhabited; three quarters of an hour more bring us to Bujaralos, and a little further, to Venta de Santa Lucia. Bujaralos is a large village, containing about eighteen hundred inhabitants, who have an appearance of poverty. The government, however, have been at the expence of building a handsome large house here, to serve as a posada for travellers. Venta de Santa Lucia is a solitary inn, situated upon a height; one may sometimes find provisions here, but it is most prudent to travel provided. We continue on the same plain, where, for the space of three leagues, there is no other shelter to be found, in case of necessity, than a wretched public-house. At this place it begins to be a little cultivated here and there. We also perceive, at a short distance on the left, some villages, a cultivated country, and numerous plantations of trees, on the lands near the Ebro. This prospect is terminated in a picturesque manner, by the mountains which separate Aragon from the kingdom of Valencia. We soon after arrive at Osera, a poor little village, the posada of which is horrid.

We

We no longer lose sight of the cheerful banks of the Ebro, though at a little distance, nor of the charming country in the vicinity of it. On the left we perceive the little village of Villa Franca de Ebro; its church is seen at a great distance: it has a dome of considerable elevation, terminating in a hexagonal turret, with six windows in it, and a front flanked with two round lanthern towers. We pass by the village of Alfajarin, which we leave two hundred paces on the left, by another at no great distance from it, and go through Puebla de Alfinden, which is large, but looks very poor. The country around becomes beautiful, and particularly on the left, it presents agreeable prospects, and becomes at last magnificent; one continued verdure spreads itself over all the plain; fields, vineyards, and orchards, appear in succession; the greatest attention to cultivation is visible on all sides; the trees increase; all kinds of fruit trees, and particularly the olive, display their riches, and continue for three quarters of a league. We now arrive at the river Galego, which we cross by a wooden bridge, built in the place of an ancient one of free stone, the ruins of which remain.

A beautiful avenue presents itself in the descent from the bridge; it is very wide, and runs in a direct line for three quarters of a mile; and continues the same distance, turning a sharp angle to the left, where it widens and forms a large circular place, enclosed by a low wall of free stone, ornamented

mented with benches, and shaded by thick trees; in returning it widens again, in the middle and at the end, forming two similar places. This avenue is planted with elms and poplars, the thick branches of which rise into the air, and intertwine with their tops; its extent, its size, the height of the trees, the thickness of their branches, and the dark shade which they cast, give to it an appearance of grandeur which arrests the attention of the traveller. A long continuation of beautiful gardens, rich in every kind of production which is found in the country, display on either side beauties equally numerous and various.

We regard this avenue with more interest, when we recollect that the place on which it stands, was the scene of important events. It was here that Philip of France and Charles of Austria, at the head of their armies, contended for the inheritance of Charles II, for the possession of the throne of Spain. Here, on the 20th August 1710, those princes fought the famous battle of Zaragoza, in which the army of Philip V, was defeated by that of Charles, and which was followed by the loss of all Aragon; it was rather a rout than a battle; the troops thought that Philip was about to renounce the throne of Spain; they had lost all confidence in their generals, and being persuaded that they were to be sacrificed, they would fight no more.

We leave this avenue and enter the suburbs of Zaragoza,

Zaragoza, which lead to a wooden bridge, over which we cross the Ebro, and enter the town.

Zaragoza, or Saragossa, is a very ancient town, the foundation of which is incorrectly attributed to the Phenicians, who, it is said, gave it the name of Salduba or Saldivivia. It was in a flourishing state under the Romans, to whom it became a colony, and was called Cæsar-Augusta. It fell into the power of the Goths, who made themselves masters of it about the year 470, conducted by Euric their king. It was besieged in 543 or 544, by Childebert and Lothaire, kings of France, who afterwards, of their own accord, raised the siege on religious considerations. The Saracens, led by Musa, their general, made themselves masters of it, and drove the Goths from it in 712, in the name of the Caliph of Damascus: not long after, Hamer, who was the governor of it, under that prince, attempted to render himself independent in it; but he was attacked, and the town taken in 753, by the Moor Zuzif, governor-general of Spain. The inhabitants of this town attempted in their turn to shake off the yoke of the new empire, the seat of which Abderame had just established at Cordova. They formed a republic in 825, which was however soon overthrown, and the republicans forced to implore the clemency of the Moorish king. At last this town became, in 1017, the capital of a small empire, at the time when the several governors in different parts of Spain, usurped

usurped supreme power. The governor of Zaragoza made himself king, and transmitted his crown to his posterity, who retained it until Alphonso I, king of Aragon, made himself master of the town, on the 18th December, 1118, after eight months siege; he then made it the capital of his kingdom, and the residence of the princes who succeeded him. It remained the capital of Aragon until that country became, in the sixteenth century, simply a province of the Spanish monarchy, by the marriage of its king Ferdinand the Catholic, with Isabella, heiress of the kingdoms of Leon and Castile.

Extent—Situation. As to the extent and situation of Zaragoza, it is believed to have lain formerly a little more to the eastward, as far as where the wooden bridge now is; it appears also that it extended over the space contained between the ancient wall of Augustus, the street of the Coso, and the ground occupied by the convent of the nuns of Saint Sepulchre, the church of our Lady of the Pillar, &c. The wall of Augustus had four gates, opposite one another; they still exist under the names of the gates of Valencia, Del Puente, Toledo, and Cineja; the last, according to some, took its name from Cinegius, the Roman prætor; and according to others, from the word *ciniciaria*, on account of the ashes of a great number of martyrs who were burnt in this place, by order of Dacien.

After the conquest of this town by king Alphonso I, churches and convents were erected in its suburbs; the intermediate spaces were filled with houses, and a new town was thus formed, which, joined to the original one, considerably extended its limits, and gradually made it of the size it now is.

The situation of Zaragoza is magnificent; a vast plain, open,

open, fertile, and rich, surrounds it on all sides; the Ebro, a considerable river, capable of navigation, bathes its walls, and separates it from its suburbs; two rivers, the Galego and the Huerva, flow at a little distance, and fertilize the neighbouring country, one on the east, the other on the west. The new canal of Aragon runs through its lands; very productive and well cultivated fields embellish its environs with various and picturesque sites; immense gardens every where display the diversified riches of agriculture; the soil is fertile, the vegetation quick, the sky clear; the climate inflicts neither the violent heats of the greatest part of Spain, nor the sharp cold of the northern provinces. All this adds to the beauty of the situation: few are to be found so happy and alluring.

Population. This town is one of the largest in Spain, but its population is not equal to its size: in the enumeration made in 1787, it was computed that there were only 42,600 inhabitants in it.

Gates, Squares, Streets, and Bridges. It has eight gates, besides the four which have been mentioned, and two bridges over the Ebro, within musket shot of each other; one is of wood, and the other of freestone. The latter, which was built in 1437, and repaired in 1659, has seven arches, the principal of which is a hundred and twenty-two feet in diameter. This bridge may be called a great landlord, as it is lord of a number of villages, the revenues of which are appropriated to its support: it is not however the better taken care of for that, for it is suffered to go so much to decay, that it is to be feared it will some day not be able to resist a great swell of the river. This town is not airy; the greater part of its streets are narrow, irregular, and paved with rough pebbles, upon which it is painful to walk. Several of the streets, however, are straight, and of a breadth by which they might make a figure amongst those of the most beautiful towns: one particularly deserves to be distinguished; it is in a direct line, very wide, extremely long, and the houses in it are very regular: this is the Calle Santa, or Holy Street, so called, because

cause it was the place of the martyrdom of the first victims of the faith in Zaragoza; it is more particularly distinguished by the name of Calle del Coso. *Coso* is a corruption of *Fosso*, because it was the moat of the ancient Roman town; or what is still more likely, of *Corso*, a name which might have been given to it, as being intended for public festivals. Indeed this street was for a long time the promenade of the inhabitants; it is less frequented since the present promenades were made, but it is still a place of public rendezvous; carriages, and people of all ranks resort to it every evening in summer, in returning from the promenade.

Edifices. The houses of Zaragoza are almost all ancient, yet they are built with a great deal of regularity. There are some, the particular ornaments of which appear, at a distance, worthy of the attention of travellers; but the illusion vanishes in proportion as we approach. Such, among others, is a convent of nuns, upon the left bank of the Ebro, at the extremity of the bridge, opposite the Angel Gate: we discover this edifice from the wooden bridge, which we cross in coming from Barcelona; seen from such a distance, it appears to present a long colonade of a number of rows, separated by recesses like openings of porticoes; the square and regular form of the building completes the illusion. It might be taken for a master-piece of architecture, but seen close, it is nothing more than one of the most ordinary buildings.

Zaragoza, however, has a number of edifices which deserve attention.

A tower, called the New Tower, though built so long ago as the year 1504, stands in the middle of St. Philip's Square, insulated, very high, and built with bricks; it is ascended by stairs, consisting of two hundred and eighty-four steps; it seems to have lost its perpendicular, and leans in a surprizing manner, perhaps as much as the famous tower of the cathedral of Pisa, though it be not so celebrated.

The church of San Cayetano is small, but handsome; it has a nave and two aisles of good architecture; it is enriched with gold

gold and marble ornaments, distributed with taste, and without profusion.

The church of the Cordeliers is remarkable for the boldness and beauty of its interior: it is two hundred and forty-six feet long, and seventy-five wide, without being supported by any pillar: but this church is injured by its altars; the architecture and the sculpture of almost all of them show very bad state

The church of Saint Lucia, which belongs to a convent of Bernardin nuns, only deserves to be remarked, for a numerous series of portraits of most of the bishops and archbishops of Zaragoza.

The church of the Facetas, so called, from the name of Didax Facet, its founder, belongs to the convent of Barefoot Carmelites. A picture of the Holy Family, which is at the principal altar, is the only object in it which deserves attention.

The church of the Convalescents contains some good pictures brought from Italy by the archbishop Diego Custillo, its founder. There are, a Samaritan and a Magdalen, which are placed in the cross; a crucifix, a Saint John, another Magdalen, and a Saint Jerome, upon the principal pillars; they are painted by Hyacinth Brandi.

The church of Saint Paul has a very handsome front, which is not finished, and the principal altar is well executed. It contains the monument of Diego de Montreal, bishop of Huesca, who died in 1607: it is of marble, with statues and various ornaments.

The chapel of Notre Dame del Portillo, near the gate of that name, has a principal altar, which is worth seeing; it stands by itself, and consists of two stories of architecture, the first of four Corinthian, the second of two composite columns; it is of marble, handsomely carved, and has a graceful appearance, but it is disfigured by a bass-relief in wood.

The church of the Barefoot Augustins, opposite the chapel, just mentioned, contains some good paintings: a Holy Virgin, and

and a Baptism of Jesus Christ, by Anthonio Orfelin, placed in the cross aisle; in the cupola of the chapel of Los Remedios, several pictures of Barthelemi Vicente; and in the sacristy a Nativity and a Crucifixion, which are in imitation of Titian.

The college of la Manteria, or of Saint Tomas de Villa Nueva, contains likewise some good paintings: four pictures of Sebastian Martinez, at the four corners of the cloister; paintings in fresco, by Sebastian Munoz, in the chapel of Saint Thomas; several others, upon different subjects, in different parts of the church, by Claude Coello; this painter drew his own portrait there, which is to be seen in the sanctuary on the right side.

The convent of the Dominicans, contains two objects that are worthy the attention of amateurs: the monument of Cardinal Jerome Xavierre, a monk of the order, which is in the Chapter hall, and the principal altar of the church. The first is a kind of marble slab, ornamented with Corinthian columns and pilasters, with a statue of the cardinal kneeling; it is very well executed. The second was made at Genoa, and intended for the monument of the inquisitor-general, Luis de Aliaga; but that design was afterwards changed, and it was made into an altar; it is insulated, made of beautiful marble, of fine Doric architecture, and ornamented with well executed pieces of sculpture: the first story has four columns, and the second two; in the middle are the statues of the Holy Virgin, and saint Dominic kneeling before her: above, that of Saint Peter the martyr, Saint Vincent Ferrier, and Saint Raymond of Penafort.

In the palace of the Inquisition are two beautiful antique statues, which are placed upon the last landing of the staircase; but they are disguised by unappropriate ornaments, which completely disfigure them: on that to the right, a head has been fixed, with a bandage over the eyes, to represent Faith; the other has a balance in her hand, to represent Justice, and they are covered with drapery, as void of taste as it is ill executed.

The convent of the Jeronymites, called Santa Engracia, was founded by king Ferdinand and Isabella. The cloister of this convent is highly ornamented on the side next to the court: the escutcheons of the Catholic kings are to be seen there, amidst a mixture of ancient and modern ornaments, in freestone, marble, stucco, and plaster; it is also decorated with a great number of small marble columns, of equal height, but some even, and others twisted: an irregularity which arose from Charles I, having ordered this cloister to be built, pursuant to the particular request of king Ferdinand his grandfather, and the money falling short, the ruins of an old cloister were used. There are several pictures here; those at the angles are by Joseph Martinez, and his son Antonio. This cloister is the place where Jerome Blancas, the highly esteemed historiographer of Aragon, is buried: he died on the 11th December 1590: he was interred without even an inscription to indicate it. The church of this convent, called the church of the Holy Martyrs, has a portal in the form or plan of an altar-piece, of two stories of architecture; the first story is ornamented with four columns, and the statues of the four doctors of the church; the second has three statues, that of the Holy Virgin with the infant Jesus, and those of Ferdinand and Isabella, kneeling on each side. These two stories of architecture are surmounted by a cross, and statues of the Holy Virgin and Saint John. The arch of the gate is ornamented with heads of Seraphims, and close beside two ancient medallions, under which are written these words: Numa Pompilius, M. Antonius. The interior is without pillars, and its airiness is the principal merit of it; the ornaments of marble and gold are well distributed; there is a monument here of the famous historian Jerome Zurita, who died in 1570. It is very magnificent. A side door leads us to another church, into which we descend by a number of steps; it has nothing remarkable except the marble and gilt ornaments with which it is equally enriched. It has a beautiful

tiful iron gate, by which we enter a third church: this is subterraneous, and is called Las Santas Masas; this is nothing but a catacomb, where the relics of a number of martyrs are deposited: the vaulted roof, which is raised about twelve feet, and studded with stars upon an azure ground, is supported by thirty little columns of different marbles, which form six small alleys; among others there are a number of crystal vases kept here, which contain some of the blood and ashes of different martyrs, and the head of Saint Engracia, in a silver shrine; it has a collar of precious stones: There is a well in the middle of this church, which is surrounded by an iron rail: it is said to contain the ashes of a great number of the faithful, whom Dacien burnt alive at Zaragoza.

The metropolitan church, commonly called La Seu, is in a small square, in which the archiepiscopal palace stands: its front is beautiful, but unornamented. The portal, which is modern, is decorated with Corinthian columns, and three statues; one of the Saviour, one of Saint Peter, and one of Saint Paul, executed by Emanuel Gira. It is tolerably handsome, but too low. There is a tower on the side of it, which is very high, and was finished a short time ago, according to designs given by J. B. Contini, in 1683. It serves for a belfry. It is built of bricks, and has four stories of architecture; there are a great number of statues, which are by Joachim Arali, and ornaments of different kinds. Allegorical statues of Time and Vigilance, in the second story, support the dial of the clock, and allegorical statues of the cardinal virtues, are placed on the top. This tower has a beautiful effect.

The church is large and spacious, but too short for its width, which injures the majesty of the edifice. It has a nave and four aisles, separated by large pillars of freestone, which support the vaulted roofs. The architecture of it is Gothic, but simple and noble. The choir is placed in the nave, and almost in the centre of the church; its enclosing

partitions are upwards of twelve feet high: it is ornamented with marble columns in the intervals, between which are placed alternately small chapels, statues, and bass-reliefs, in white marble: amongst others, there is a rich tomb here, which contains the ashes of one of the first inquisitors, near which there are six Moors suspended to columns. There are detached chapels the whole length of the two outermost aisles; they are large and spacious; most of them are ornamented with gilding and marble of different kinds; their outside is overcharged with confused sculptures. Amongst these chapels, we are attracted by that of Saint Mark, in which there are some beautiful paintings by Raviela; by that of the birth of Jesus Christ, the altar of which, composed of two stories, with four columns in the first and two in the second, is of a handsome Corinthian architecture, it contains some paintings imitated from the Flemish school, the principal merit of which consists in the preservation of the colours; by that of Saint Bernard, built at the expence of Ferdinand of Aragon natural grandson of king Ferdinand the Catholic and archbishop of Zaragoza, which is full of sculptures in alabaster; there are a great number of statues in it; we distinguish those of the Holy Virgin, Saint Bernard, the nativity of Jesus Christ, the Circumcision, the Purification, Jesus in the Temple interrogating the Doctors, the Martyrdom of the Innocents, &c. &c. This cathedral contains the relics of a great number of illustrious persons. In the sanctuary there is the monument of the Infant Don Michael, the son of Ferdinand V, that of Alphonso of Aragon, archbishop of Zaragoza, the natural son of the same prince who died in 1520; that of Juan of Aragon, archbishop of the same town, who died in 1530; that of prince Balthasar-Charles, the son of Philip IV, who died in 1646; that of the Infanta Dona Maria, daughter of king James the Conqueror; and those of several other prelates of the royal house of Aragon. The chapel of Our Lady la Blanca, contains the mausoleums of several archbishops of Zaragoza. That of Our Lady of the Snows, contains

contains the tomb of Pedro Manrico, archbishop of the town; it consists of a sepulchral urn, with a statue of the prelate. In the chapel of Saint Bernard is the monument of Ferdinand of Aragon, natural grandson of Ferdinand the Catholic, and archbishop of Zaragoza, and that of Ann Gorrea, his mother; they are both of marble, by Marianez Vizcayno. That of the prelate is ornamented with four columns, enriched with bass-reliefs of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, some figures of Saints, and the Last Judgment, which finishes the monument: the statue of the archbishop is in a recumbent posture. The mausoleum of his mother consists of a statue also recumbent; it is ornamented by other statues, and several bass-reliefs, the principal of which represents the Holy Family.

The vestry of this church contains some middling pictures: a Jesus Christ on the Mount of Olives, a Crucifixion, a Resurrection, an Ascension, all in the style of Durer; a good Samaritan; this picture is ascribed to Guerchin; a Saint John the Baptist, a Saint Francis in the Desert, a Descent of the Holy Ghost, a Magdalen, and another saint. The treasure of the church is also kept here; it consists of a great quantity of silver pieces, among others many busts of saints, which were a present from the antipope Peter de Luna, who had been archbishop of Zaragoza: a rich tabernacle, intended for the Holy Sacrament, is worthy attention; it is of Gothic work, with three stories of architecture, the first of which is ornamented with small statues of saints; it is of silver, and weighs seventeen arobas of Aragon, each thirty six pounds twelve ounces; that is to say, four hundred and eight pounds avoirdupois weight. There is also a very heavy gold cross here, enriched with pearls and precious stones, on which the kings of Aragon took the oath on their accession to the throne.

This church would be handsome if it had length proportioned to its breadth; it is besides too much loaded with ornaments, and their fantastical, confused, and often monstrous mixture, considerably degrades its dignity. It has another

another great defect, it has no gate except on the sides; if we entered in the middle, we should be more struck with the majesty of the place, and catch at once a better view of the whole. We could wish also that it had a higher front and portal, and a larger square.

The church of Nuestra Dona del Pilar, is a grand and superb building, five hundred feet long; it has a nave and two large aisles, separated by pillars, which support seven arcades on each side. The choir is placed at the upper part of the church, and encompassed by a brass railing, covered with ornaments and small figures; it is a work of the latter part of the sixteenth century, which cost 23,000 Aragonese pence, the present value of which would be 21,647 reals, or 225l. 1s. 5½d*. This choir has a hundred and fifteen stalls, principally made of very hard wood, said to be the Flemish oak; they are loaded with sculpture and bass-reliefs. This wood-work was made in the middle of the sixteenth century, and cost 62,000 Aragonese pence, a sum equal at present to 58,253 reals, or 606l. 16s. 6½d.

The principal altar is in the Gothic style, and almost all of alabaster; it is a mixture of different kinds of sculpture; in the middle is an Assumption, and on the two sides a Nativity, and a Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple; these works are by Damien Formant, of Valencia.

A subterraneous building, under the chapel of the Holy Virgin, is intended for the interment of the canons; it is completely coated over with black marble. The chapel of Saint Laurent has an altar of mixed marble; its vestry contains three good pictures; a Saint Peter Arbues, a Dead Christ, and a Martyrdom of Saint Laurent; the last is by Ribera. The chapel of Saint Joachim is remarkable for the monument erected by order of Charles III, to the memory of the famous Joseph Carillo de Albornoz, duke of Montemar, who died in 1747. It is an obelisk, placed upon a pedestal, with allego-

* This was a considerable sum in Aragon, at that time.

rical

rical statues of Valour and Justice, and an inscription to commemorate the services of that general; it is of marble, and was executed by Lambert Martinez, from the designs of Stephen de la Peña.

An edifice of a different kind, and of a modern construction, is raised in the middle of this church; it is a sort of large pavilion, of the Corinthian order, placed under the grand cupola, like a small temple by itself, similar to the Santa Casa of Loretta; in the interior it has an oval form, and is open on three sides; the fourth is closed by three altars: the middle one is decorated with a large and beautiful medallion of white marble, on which is represented in bass-relief, the Arrival of the Holy Virgin. It has a great number of ornaments; the roof is embellished with paintings in fresco, by Antonio Velasquez; the Holy Virgin is surrounded by various groups of angels: other medallions, with bass-reliefs, are distributed in different places; they represent several mysteries and actions relative to the Virgin Mary: the Nativity, the Betrothing, the Visitation, and the Annunciation; eight statues of saints, and a number of figures and groups of angels are also distributed about it; the sculptures are by Manuel Alvarez, Carlos de Salas, Josef Ramire, Jean de Léon, and Léon Lozano. Four other smaller cupolas are raised over the arched roofs; they were painted in fresco a few years since, by Francis Bayeu, Raymond Bayeu, and Francis Goya.

It may be said, that the arts have combined to decorate the interior of this church. Every embellishment that could give it a grand character has been lavished on it, and it has been erected with a profusion of riches and magnificence, very rarely to be found. Architecture, painting, sculpture, emulate each other in offering their treasures. Marbles the most beautiful and the rarest, and gold and silver, display their lustre; bass-reliefs and statues of white marble, cornices, frames, incrustations of white, green, black, and sprinkled marbles, infinitely varied, are seen on all sides. Yet the architecture may be said to be too studied, and the sculpture too affected,

in

in ornamenting the capitals with confused histories. The superb pavilion of the Virgin, which has been mentioned, rises in the middle, and altogether has the most commanding appearance; but the most attentive eye cannot go over all the details of its ornaments and of its richness. Lastly, the church itself wants a front worthy of its beauty and magnificence; and, like the metropolitan church, it has the defect of having doors only on the sides.

The Lonja, that is to say, the resort of the merchants, or the Exchange, situated near the Angel Gate, is a large, square, and tolerably regular old building, round which are the busts of most of the kings of Aragon. The most remarkable part of its interior is a large hall, over which there is a light cupola, and which has a double row of balconies; it is supported by arches, and about fifty Doric columns, forty feet four inches high, which divide it into three parts; it is a hundred and seventeen feet four inches long, seventy-three feet four inches wide, and a hundred and three feet ten inches high. It is the place where the municipal body assembles.

The Hotel of the Deputation, opposite the Exchange, was the palace where the states of the kingdom formerly met; it serves at present for the sittings of the royal audience. It is a large edifice, built about the middle of the fifteenth century. It is a hundred and seventy-eight feet long, thirty-four feet high, and about thirty-two feet in front. The upper part of the outside is crowded with gilt ornaments, mouldings, griffins, lions, centaurs, and other objects, according to the whim of the architect or sculptor. This hotel contains a number of large and beautiful halls; that in which the royal audience is held, is ornamented with paintings of battles; another, which is also very highly ornamented, contains the portraits of some of the *justicias* of Aragon. The grand hall is remarkable for a complete collection of the princes who have reigned in Aragon: there are some of the kings of Sobrarbe, six of the Counts of Aragon, twenty-five of the kings of Aragon, and six of the kings of Spain.

Some

Some particular houses deserve to be distinguished: the gate of the Custom-house, and the house of Castel Florit, for the ornaments with which they are decorated; that of Zaporta or Franco, for its architecture: the last has two stories, each of twelve arcades, which are supported by columns, loaded with sculptures of several fanciful objects, and ornamented with the portraits of some kings in medallions.

Promenades. Zaragoza has a number of promenades, some of which are very pleasant. It has terraces which run along the side of the Ebro, in front of very handsome buildings; these might be made pleasant, if they were planted with trees, and kept in repair; but they are naked, neglected, and full of filth and obstructions, and of course can afford no pleasure. The double avenue, in return, which extends from the banks of the Galego to the suburbs of Zaragoza, forms a most beautiful promenade; but it is not frequented*. Another promenade, called Macanaz, runs out of the town, upon the banks of the Ebro, and upon the road to Suslivol. The promenade of Santa Engracia extends along the borders of the Huerva, and towards Mount Ternero; it is embellished with the view of some country-houses, which are called Torres; another promenade, short, but beautiful and pleasant, is situated at the gates of the town: it is composed of five walks, planted with very beautiful trees, with stone seats, well distributed; the middle walk, which is very broad, serves for carriages; the others are intended for persons on foot: it is not well frequented, except on holidays. Another promenade has been made, which goes round part of the town, in the form of a rampart, and which joins the preceding one: it will be handsome when the trees are grown up; at present it is mostly frequented in carriages.

Clergy. Zaragoza has a see, which was at first episcopal, under the Goths; it was abolished under the Moors, and re-

* This is a part of the avenue which was mentioned, at the entrance of Zaragoza.

established

established by king Alphonso I, after the conquest of this town in 1118: it was at last raised to an archbishopric, to which the bishops of Huesca, Barbastro, Jaca, Taragona, Albarazin, and Teruel, were made suffragans. Its diocese contains three hundred and sixty-five parishes, one cathedral chapter, and two collegiate ones; it does not extend over the whole of the town of Zaragoza; that part in which the convents of the Capuchins of Santa Engracia, and the Barefoot Carmelites are situated, is in the diocese of Huesca. The metropolitan chapter reside at Zaragoza, which is their cathedral chapter; but they are divided between the church and that of Our Lady of the Pillar, half in each. The canons change churches twice a year; those who have resided six months in one, perform divine service for an equal term in the other. These two churches likewise alternately perform the general functions of the chapter, as the meetings of the chapter, processions, &c. They are performed in that where the dean resides: for he changes as well as the canons. This chapter is composed of thirteen dignitaries, and thirty canons. Besides this, each of the two churches has its particular clergy: that of the metropolitan consists of ninety-two prebendaries, fifty beneficed priests, and sixty ministers for the service of the altars, choir, and church; that of Our Lady of the Pillar consists of thirty-eight prebendaries, thirty-five beneficed priests, and thirty ministers for the church service, making in the whole a body of three hundred and forty-nine persons for the two churches. The habit of the canons of the choir consists of a black cassock, a *rochet*, a mantle of violet silk, and a silk *camail*, which, in summer, is violet behind, and crimson before, and in winter is covered with ermine.

This town has seventeen parishes, one of which is in the diocese of Huesca, twenty-four convents of monks, four houses of regular clergy, thirteen convents of nuns, a house of Beguine nuns of the order of Saint Dominic, a college of virgins, a house of penitents, four churches and houses exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary, five hospitals, and a seminary occupied

occupied by ecclesiastics who principally devote themselves to missions. The hospital of Pity, the edifice of which was finished in 1792, is an exellent establishment; it contains upwards of seven hundred persons, infants, young, and old, of both sexes, who are without resource; these are maintained and taken care of; they are employed in spinning silk, in carding and spinning wool, and in making camlets and some silk stuffs.

The clergy of Zaragoza are still more numerous than those of Barcelona. The church of Salvador has fifty-four prebendaries, fifteen beneficed priests, and twenty nine inferior priests. The other fifteen parishes have a number, more or less, of parochial ministers, vicars, and beneficed priests; the convents of monks and nuns are very numerous; there are no less than forty-four of these; the other churches have priests who do duty in them; to which must be added the ministers intended for the service of the seventy-one churches, and the priests and ministers of the oratories and particular chapels.

Administration. This town is the place of residence of the general chapter of the kingdom of Aragon, the chief place of the intendant's jurisdiction, and the seat of the royal audience, which is the supreme court of this province. It has a king's lieutenant, a major, a garrison, which generally consists of two regiments of infantry, and one of cavalry or dragoons, a principal war accountant, and a war auditor. It is defended by a fortress of little importance, and which is called Aljaforia. The civil government is carried on by a criminal judge, specially commissioned for the administration of justice and objects of police, and by a certain number of magistrates. It has two alcade mayors, who administer justice concurrently with the Judge, a tribunal of the inquisition, a university, an academy of the fine arts, a society of the friends of the country, a school for drawing, one for agriculture, and one where mathematics, moral phoilosophy, the law of nations, and the elements of commerce and public Economy are taught.

Public

Public Instruction. The public instruction in grammar, the dead languages, and rhetoric, was in the hands of the Jesuits, and they acquitted themselves well; since their suppression, it has been entrusted to seculars. There is a school called the Teaching House, for the education of young girls. The students who go to the colleges of the university, are generally from eight to nine hundred in number.

Two public libraries are open here for the studious, who owe both to the beneficence of two individuals: one is in the convent of St. Ildefonso, belonging to the Dominicans; it contains 1600 volumes, which were given by the Marquis de la Compuesta; it has no modern books. The other is in the seminary, and is the ancient library of Don Emanuel de Roda, formerly a secretary of state, who began to collect it at Rome, and augmented it at Madrid during his ministry; it is handsome, numerous, and well chosen, and contains valuable collections.

Celebrated Men. Zaragoza is the native place of several men who distinguished themselves in different careers: of Saint Valere, Braulio, Lambert, Saint Engracia; of the historians Antonio Augustino, whom the learned De Thou called the luminary of Spain; Gonsalvo Garcia de Santa Maria, Jerome de Blancas, Jerome Zurita, and Bartolomé Leonard de Argensola his continuator; of the Roman poet Prudentius, of the orator Petrus, who distinguished himself in the fourth century of the Christian era; of the poet Alberto Diaz de Foncalda; of Juan Francisco Andrés de Ustarroz, who was, towards the middle of the 17th century, at once an orator, an historian, and poet; of Antonio Olivan Maldonado, a famous preacher; of the theologian Didax-Antonio Francisco de Arrutigoyti, bishop of Barbastro; of an eminent lawyer, Servato de Aniñon; of the brothers of the name of Bayeu, and of Francisco Goya, their cousin, good painters of our own times.

Manners and Customs. There is little luxury at Zaragoza. We see nothing but round hats, and black or brown mantles, in

in the streets and promenades: such is the most common dress of the people, artisans, merchants, dealers, and citizens; it is generally adopted, except by the nobility, the army, the magistracy, and revenue officers. The men wear under their mantle only a waistcoat, without coat, or neck-cloth: their best clothes consist of mantles, more or less fine, though always of woollen stuff; of cloth in winter, of stuff of a lighter texture in summer, and sometimes of a light silk. They affect to show their waistcoats, which are more or less handsome, by wearing the mantle in such a manner, that it shows one shoulder, and passes on the same side under the arm. They have very large frills to their shirts, and yet do not wear ruffles. This dress surprises the traveller the first time he sees it, but he often meets with it in Spain, though rarely in great towns. The women, with the exception of those of the first rank, are simply clad; we hardly ever see any who distinguish themselves by their dress; and we perceive little of that elegant attire so observable in cities of the first and second classes. Zaragoza is, however, one of the handsomest cities in Spain; it is extensive, delightfully situated, under a temperate sky; and where the conveniences of life might be abundant among the people: but this city is without industry, and without commerce. It is said, that the clergy possess the greatest portion of the wealth of the place. However that be, all here is serious and regular, not to say dull, and monotonous: there is no society, no parties, nor any kind of entertainment. It seems quite devoid of every resource, because the inhabitants use no effort to obtain any; accustomed to this state of apathy and languor, they have not an idea of the possibility of shaking it off. There were formerly plays throughout the year; but towards the middle of the last century the play house was burned down, and several people perished. The archbishop, influenced by apostolic zeal, represented this calamity as a mark of divine wrath; and, in the consternation which this dreadful accident spread, the inhabitants made a solemn vow at the foot of their altars,

altars, to banish plays for ever from their city: notwithstanding this, the succeeding generation, forgetting the oath, re-established a play-house in the town at the end of the same century.

It is singular that Zaragoza should be without public fountains. The canal which they are making near the town, may certainly, by reviving commerce, call forth the activity, and develope the happy genius of the inhabitants.

Inns. There are many posadas here; but there is only one inn, kept by a Catalonian, with the sign of the three kings; it is very indifferent; the rooms are ill furnished and dirty, the beds bad, the table not well served, and the prices dear enough.

THE ENVIRONS OF ZARAGOZA.

Aljuferia. This is a castle without the gates of the city of Zaragoza, on the road to New Castile; formerly it was successively the palace of the Moorish kings, and, after their expulsion, the residence of the kings of Aragon. At length the kings of Spain resigned it to the inquisition, when it became the seat and prison of this tribunal. Philip V converted it into a fortress, in the 18th century; it was badly fortified, and of little importance: we still see here some of the apartments formerly used by the kings of Aragon; the great hall is remarkable for the number, the variety, and beauty of its paintings, its gildings, and the other ornaments with which it is decorated. This fortress has an especial governor.

The convent de la Merci, under the title of San-Lazaro, is delightfully situated without the city. It is very extensive. The staircase is uncommonly magnificent; it is formed of a beautiful flight of stairs, which, on the first landing place, divides into two parts, ascending on the right and on the left. The steps are of beautiful black marble of Calatrao; and are supported by two rows of columns of the same marble, and of

of the Doric order; the staircase is lighted by a large turret, which admits an exceedingly fine light. The sacristy of the church of this convent possesses some good pictures, which are however only copies.

Carthusian Convent de la Conception. This convent is a league from Zaragoza; we reach it by following the bank of the Ebro, about half a league from the southern bank of this river. It was founded in 1648 by Alfonzo Funes de Villalpando, and Jeromette Zaporta-y-Albion, his wife. Its church, which was repaired in 1781, has nothing remarkable; but its territory is most beautiful, and of considerable extent. The most attentive cultivation assists its various productions: fields, vineyards, woods, groves, orchards, kitchen gardens, and parterres, succeed each other. Among other trees, they reckon two thousand olive, and six hundred fruit trees. This is a delightful place, and becomes still more agreeable by the hospitable reception we meet with from the Monks who inhabit it.

The canal of Aragon, which is already brought nearly up to the walls of Zaragoza, was begun in 1529 by order of Charles I, suspended in 1538, recommenced in 1566, by order of Philip II, again abandoned, and again begun in 1770, under Charles III, by a Dutch company, and carried on in 1775, by command of the same monarch. Notwithstanding the protection and assistance of the government, it would have doubtless been still oftener abandoned, had not the efforts and indefatigable zeal of a generous citizen, animated and supported so useful an enterprize: to him Aragon is indebted for its commerce, the revival of its industry, its riches, and its happiness. This friend and benefactor of his country is a canon of the mother church, and of the illustrious and ancient house of Piñatelli: he deserves a public monument from the inhabitants of Zaragoza, who should, whilst they derived honour to themselves from such a countryman, express to him their gratitude and veneration. This canal was formed by the union of the old imperial canal, and the canal of Tauste.

It

It begins in the territory of Fontellas, near Tudela, in the kingdom of Navarre: its extent, to its entrance into the Ebro, must be 79,416 toises, or about twenty-six leagues and a half. It is continued a league below Zaragoza (there are still wanting some leagues to terminate it); it discharges itself into the Ebro, which empties itself flows into the Mediterranean, near the Emposta, below Tortosa. There are already barges upon it, and a passage boat which is large and well contrived for the convenience of passengers. Bridges have also been constructed upon it, as well as dikes, banks, and sluices. It has outlets every where to conduct the water to the land, for the purpose of watering it. In the valley of Rio-Jalon an aqueduct has been formed of freestone, of seven hundred and ten toises in length, and of seventeen feet in thickness at its base, under which runs the river De Jalon, into which the water of the canal flows. This work has cost 13,000,000 reals, or 135,416l. sterling. It is intended to carry on this enterprise to the opposite coast, to cross Navarre, and part of Biscay, and to extend it to the ocean: thus would be formed a communication between the two seas. This canal is of the utmost importance; it will give a spirit hitherto unknown to the commerce of the countries through which it passes; it will fertilize, by watering, a considerable quantity of uncultivated, sterile, or almost unprofitable land; it will enrich the people by facilitating the means of disposing of their commodities. Aragon already has experienced the advantages of it, and agriculture has taken a new appearance in those countries which are watered by the canal.]

Road from Zaragoza to the frontiers of New Castile, by Daroca, 14 leagues and a half.

Zaragoza to	
Santa Fé, (a village)	1 league.
Maria, (a village)	1

Venta

Venta Matorita,	1 league.
Lamuela, (a village)	$\frac{1}{2}$
Longares, (a village)	3
Cariñena, (a town)	1
Venta de San Martino,	2
Mayna, (a village)	1
Retascon, (a village)	1
Xiloca, (a river without a bridge)	$\frac{1}{2}$
Daroca, (a town)	
Used, (a village)	2

On quitting Zaragoza, we go over very uneven ground; and soon ascend to Maria, a village, two leagues distant. After having passed Santa Fé, which is about half way, we meet with La Venta de Matorita, and the village of Lamuela, which is followed by a succession of hills, formed by rocks of a calcareous stone; we reach Longares, after travelling three hours more: near this village are a number of vineyards. Here we enter on a plain of calcareous earth and grey stone, sown with corn; this leads to Cariñena, a small village, remarkable for the goodness of its wines; here we find a parish church, two convents for monks, and a population amounting to two thousand inhabitants.

Immediately after, we pass over a short plain, covered with vineyards and olive trees. Ascending an eminence for two hours, we pass on to the Venta de San Martino; there descending two leagues on a chain of parched and uncultivated hills, we come to the village of Mayna; then en-

tering a cultivated plain, we find the village of Retascon; here again we descend a small and very steep mountain, and fording the river Xiloca, we arrive at Daroca.

Daroca is an ancient little town, which is said to have been founded by the Celtiberians, and which, after having been under the dominion of the Moors, was taken from those people in 1123, by Alphonso I. It is situated in a hollow, between two hills, on the western bank of the river Xiloca. It has a collegiate chapter, six other parish churches, five convents for monks, one for nuns, three hospitals, ten hermitages, chapels, or oratories, three of which were formerly parish churches, and two belonged to the Templars. Here are cavalry barracks, a corrégidor, and an alcalde-mayor. Its population amounts to about five thousand souls. This town is remarkable for the goodness of its waters, and the great number of its fountains; there is one that has twenty pipes, from which water continually issues. It is embellished with a beautiful walk, ornamented with two rows of very lofty poplars, which we pass through, coming from Calatayud: the convents of the Trinitarians, Dominicans, and Capuchins, are there situated.

The situation of Daroca exposed it to be overflowed by the waters of the Xiloca, and by those which fall from the neighbouring hills, in storms, great rains, and at the melting of the snows; but this danger has been prevented, by contriving on the

the upper part, and along the hill, a drain, which is called La Mina. Here there is a fine cavern, seven hundred and eighty varas long. This town was the birth-place of Juan-Michelo Perez de Heredia, and of Juan-Antonio Uson, theologians of the seventeenth century; and of the historians, Juan de Aguas, and Francisco Ximenez; the latter wrote, in the thirteenth century, the History of the Restoration of Spain.

Here we are surrounded with mountains, inclined on every side towards the horizon, which are covered with layers of gravel, partly schist, and partly flint. The country, as we leave Daroca, is delightful; we pass through a superb valley, fertilized by a little river, which waters it; the enclosures are numerous, garden succeeds garden, and fruit trees, covering the surface, appear like forests; in short, nature here displays all her stores. Hemp is cultivated here, and is of an excellent quality. In this valley a bloody battle was fought in 1121, when Alphonso the Conqueror, king of Aragon, obtained a complete victory over Mahomed Texefin, the son of Ali-Juchef, the Moorish king of Cordova.

On leaving this delightful valley, an ascent leads to an opening in the mountain, about two hundred paces in breadth; here we proceed for about two leagues, and arrive at Used. This village is situated at the foot of a chain of sandy hills, which terminate in a little plain. South of this village

is a pool called Gallocanta, where culinary salt, and bitter salt, are obtained.

At some distance from Used we enter New Castile. We may reach this province by another road, which is longer by six leagues, by passing through the town of Calatayud, and which we shall now describe.

Road from Zaragoza to the confines of New Castile, by Calatayud, 20 leagues and a half.

Zaragoza to	
Lamuela, (a village)	3 leagues.
Venta de la Romera,	3
Almunia, (a little town)	1½
Venta de San Miquel,	1
Frasno, (a village)	½
Calatayud, (a town)	3½
Terré,(a village)	1¼
Techa, (a village)	1
Ubierca, (a village)	1½
Alhama de Los Baños, (a village)	½
The Jalon, (a river and bridge)	
Satina, (a village)	1¼
Sisamon, (a village)	2
Frontiers of New Castile,	½

We leave Zaragoza by a fine road, which crosses a plain, at the entrance well cultivated, but, as we proceed, parched and totally uncultivated: after travelling two hours and a half, we begin to ascend; we dive into narrow passes; we climb very lofty mountains, which are parched and uncultivated, with

with the exception of a few detached spots, where we observe, from time to time, some traces of a languid cultivation. After an ascent of two hours and a half, we reach a plain of immense extent, where we see with pleasure an attentive cultivation. Lamuela soon presents itself to our view, and is a poor little village, with a detestable posada.

We continue to travel over the same plain, but it is not half so well cultivated, and is intersected by little defiles and eminences. An uneven descent leads us, in the space of half an hour, to another large plain, which is formed like a conque shell, surrounded by mountains, amidst which is the Venta de la Romera: here we travel for four hours, and find it almost wholly uncultivated. We meet with only a few intervals, planted with vines, olives, and fruit trees; and these are in the environs of the village of Catrava, which is about a thousand paces to the right.

The prospect here becomes picturesque and pleasing. A beautiful vale presents itself to our view, embellished with rich and verdant carpets; olives, fruit trees, vines, meadows, and gardens, cover its surface; rivulets of clear and limpid water wind through it in every part; a village on one side, and a little town at the farther end, admirably terminate the picture. This view is particularly delightful, as we have just quitted a dry and uncultivated country, whose aspect is unvaried and

and fatiguing; and the picture is still more striking, from the contrast which the richness of this vale forms with the parched and bare state of the surrounding mountains.

We still go on descending into the vale, and proceed, for half an hour, amidst green and smiling fields, handsome and well cultivated gardens, variegated trees, some of which shade the road, and rivulets which refresh the air and fertilize the earth. Thus we reach Almunia, a little town, of about three thousand inhabitants, in a charming situation, whose comforts are announced by the appearance of the country as we approach it. Here are two parish churches, and two monasteries.

We now travel along the side of the mountain for three quarters of an hour, by a narrow road, whose environs are covered with olive-trees. We enter on the mountains of Morata del Conde, by a narrow passage, which is also full of olive-trees; these mountains are planted with vines almost to their summit. We ascend for the space of two hours, and pass the Venta de San Miquel: we then reach the top, and follow a narrow way, called Puerto del Frasno. From this we look down on a little vale, full of fields, vines, and olive trees; but it neither presents the beauties, the life, nor the loveliness of the vale of Almunia. After descending for half an hour, we arrive at Frasno, a little village, poor, and affording no accommodation for travellers, the posada not being a degree

better

better than the former one. Frasno has not any thing agreeable in it but a copious fountain of clear, cool, and excellent water. Leaving this village, we enter the mountains, and attain their summit, after clambering for two hours and a half through difficult roads; but are rewarded for our fatigue, by the interesting sight we have beneath. The beautiful vale of Calatayud opens to the view: here nature seems to have displayed all her treasures: immense and superb carpets of the finest verdure extend on all sides, shaded by innumerable trees; the Jalon and the Xiloca roll their vivifying waters, and abundant rivulets meander through the land, fertilizing as they move: at length the town of Calatayud rises amidst this magnificent landscape, built on the side of a mountain, where we behold the ruins of edifices, which announce its antiquity. After traversing with delight part of this charming vale, we arrive at Calatayud.

This town was founded by Ajub, a Moorish general, in the eighth century, with the ruins of ancient Bibilis; this latter place was situated half a league farther off, on a mountain, the foot of which is watered by the river Jalon, and which still retains its ancient name of Baubola, or Bambola. Several Roman monuments have been found here at different times. It remained under the dominion of the Moors for more than four centuries; and in 1118, passed under that of the kings of Aragon, having

having been conquered by king Alphonso I, who took it by assault. This place gave birth to Martial the poet, who has celebrated its gold and iron mines, and the good temper which the waters of Jalon communicates to the latter metal. It was famous for the quality of the arms made there. Calatayud is tolerably large, pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Jalon, at the conflux of this and the river Xiloca, in the centre of the fertile vale of which we have just spoken. It is sufficiently open; there are twenty-two squares of different sizes, forty-four principal streets, nine gates, some fine buildings, three suburbs, three bridges, and a beautiful fountain with eleven pipes. Around the walls are some pleasant walks, which are shaded by trees, and watered by various rivulets. This town has two collegiate chapters, seven parish churches, a seminary, six monasteries, five nunneries, and two colleges, which have a thousand scholars, a corregidor, an alcalde-mayor, and a population of about nine thousand inhabitants. There are twelve or thirteen soap manufactories.

The two chapters are named Santa Maria and San Sepulcro. The former is composed of four dignities, four offices, fourteen canonries, and ten prebends. The latter is regular, and exempt from the jurisdiction of the ordinary; the president is a prior, who bears the golden cross in salter like the bishop, and consists of four regular canons, of

of a chamberlain canon, who is not regular, and of four prebendaries.

Edifices. The convent de la Merci is situated on the principal promenade, to which it is ornamental. It is a square brick edifice; the front of it is ornamented with pilasters, amongst which are three rows of balconies, each row having fourteen balconies. It is embellished with some other decorations, and is on the whole beheld with pleasure.

The church of San Sepulcro is in a little square: the front is simple, but pleasing; the church has a nave and two aisles, of a noble appearance; the principal altar is in the Roman style; and consists of a pavilion, supported by four columns of marble, under which is placed the sepulchre of our Saviour. The sanctuary is inclosed by a balustrade; the front of the altar, the steps, the ornaments, and the balustrade, are partly of white marble, and partly of jasper.

Celebrated Men. If ancient Bibilis be famous for having given birth to Martial, modern Calatayud may justly boast of being the birth place of the celebrated politician Laurento Gracian; it was also the birth place of Juan Gascon, a philosopher of the sixteenth century; of the commentator of Avicenna, Didax Lopez; of the naturalist, Andres Ferrar de Valdecebro, who wrote in 1660, a history of animals, but particularly on birds.

Inns. Here there is but one Posada, handsomely built, and the apartments are kept tolerably clean; but if one would have good provisions, it will be necessary to have them purchased expressly in the town, which is generally pretty well provided.

On quitting Calatayud, we pursue the same vale for an hour and a half at the side of bare and very lofty mountains; here we again perceive the same

same beauties, the same rich scenes, until we come to the village of Terré, which is at its extremity. We here leave the vale, crossing it where it becomes narrower. After a very gentle ascent and descent, we enter another large vale, similar to the last, watered by the Jalon, well cultivated, every where covered with beautiful gardens, and surrounded with mountains, which are embellished with numerous vines. This vale leads us to Techa, where we arrive, after travelling in it for an hour and a half.

Techa is a large village, separated into two parts by the Jalon, which we pass over a stone bridge of three arches. One of its steeples is very elegant both in form and decoration, and is built in the Arabesque style. Another steeple of considerable dimensions, resembling a large and lofty tower, has lost its perpendicular, and inclines to one side so as to appear ready to fall. It has remained in this state from time immemorial, and has long ceased to be spoken of, notwithstanding it is so very remarkable. In the year 1796, government had a large house erected at the extremity of this village, for the purpose of a *posada* for travellers.

The same vale, by an agreeable opening, is prolonged for a quarter of a league amidst mountains; it is watered by a large rivulet, and presents to the view a numerous succession of beautiful gardens. We leave this by an even and fine, though narrow road, two carriages not being able to pass.

We

We proceed along the mountain to the right; the left is embellished by a verdant dale, watered by a rivulet, with a chain of little valleys, which are all cultivated and beautiful, and rapidly succeed each other for upwards of a league. We now reach Ubierca, a miserable village, built in the form of an amphitheatre; and, half an hour after, Alhama de Los Banos, another still more wretched village, which was anciently a place of strength, possessed by the Moors for a long time, and taken from them in 1122, by Alphonso, king of Aragon; it is situated on the Jalon, at the foot of high mountains, where we see many subterraneous habitations dug into the mountain, and serving as an asylum for the wretchedness of a part of the people of this country. At present this village is remarkable only for the hot baths which are within gunshot, and whose salutary effects in rheumatisms and inveterate pains are boasted of; formerly they were very much frequented, but appear less so now. We pass the Jalon by a little bridge on leaving Alhama, and, directly on the left, perceive the building in which are the baths, on the side of the mountain. We then begin to ascend by a gentle and insensible acclivity, sometimes travelling on turf, and sometimes by cultivated lands; after another hour we perceive the village of Fuerta Mina, which we leave on the right, at three hundred paces from the road, and in another half hour, we pass through that of Satina, which is tolerably large.

We

We continue ascending by a gentle acclivity, and an even narrow road, which, striking into the mountains, becomes extremely woody. Trees increase, thicken, and approach the road, so as to cover it entirely over in some parts. The road begins to have many turnings, and it takes an hour and a half to travel through this passage. We are remote from every habitation; and it would be easy to lie concealed here, and surprize the traveller. This is a dangerous place; there are some parts which we cannot pass without terror. On leaving the wood, we again ascend for near a league, then entering a plain, we soon reach Sisamon, a small and wretched village, the last of the kingdom of Aragon, on the frontiers of New Castile. The posada here is abominable; it is deficient in every thing, and the village is not better provided: it is situated at the entrance of the immense plain, called Las Serranias, on the top of very high mountains, which form part of Sierra de Cuença. We travel over this on leaving Sisamon, by a fine even road, formed by nature alone; it is partly uncultivated, and partly cultivated, and principally very woody, but throughout dry and parched. After proceeding three quarters of a league, we perceive on the right, on a little eminence, a small square tower, which marks the limits of Aragon and New Castile, into which latter province we enter.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF THE KINGDOM OF ARAGON.

Population. The population of Aragon does not correspond with its extent; it is not known to what number it amounted formerly; but if we are to judge by the multitude of ruined villages, it must have been much more considerable. There are one hundred and forty nine villages entirely deserted, and three hundred and eighty five where there are only a few houses, and a very small number of inhabitants: we do not perceive, however, that the other habitations have increased by this circumstance. The villages which still remain, to the number of a thousand and eighty eight, are almost all wretched, and are reduced to a very small population; the towns themselves are very thinly peopled; Zaragoza has but forty two thousand six hundred inhabitants. Although by its extent it could contain one hundred and fifty thousand.

The enumerations in 1787 and 1788 make the population not exceed six hundred and twenty three thousand three hundred and eight inhabitants, amongst which they reckon

Parish Priests	1,199
Secular Priests	3,384
Monks	3,969
Nuns	1,454
Nobles	9,144
Advocates	289
Writers	617
Students	4,275
Domestics	22,009

This population is very disproportioned to the vast extent of Aragon, the fertility of the soil, and immensity and variety of its productions. Therefore, we travel in this country meeting

meeting with very few habitations; it is not unusual to go six or eight leagues without coming to one village. The want of labourers is an injury to the lands, and one is very much surprised in travelling over so promising a soil, to find a very large portion of it deserted.

Agriculture of Aragon. If the soil of this province were in the hands of the Catalans, or Valencians, this country would become a land of promise. It is uncommonly fertile, and requires only a little assistance to return an immense produce. Numerous and copious rivers run through it in all parts, which admirably contribute to the fecundity of land consumed with heat. The productions of this country are numerous, varied, and of superior quality: the stuffs are beautiful, the silk very fine, flax and hemp of a long and soft thread, the wines exquisite, the oils excellent, the fruits fine and delicious, the corn large, and containing much flour.

The banks of the rivers are singularly embellished, and display a very active principle of vegetation; the banks of the Ebro particularly, and those of Jucor, are uncommonly rich. An infinite number of vales, watered by different rivers, produce all that human industry can wish; the little vale we meet on leaving Fraga, and that in which Frasno is situated, are a chain of gardens; those of Daroca and Alumnia are still more beautiful, more fertile, and more various in their productions. Similar vales abound in several parts of Aragon, but there are few that approach in beauty, fertility, and richness, to the magnificent vale of Calatayud, and to that in which the village of Techa is situated. The plains of Alcañiz, of Caspe, of Albalate, of Maella, and of Calaceite, are not either less productive, or less rich; their fields are for a very considerable extent, a perpetual succession of superb gardens, where olive and fruit trees of every description vie with the other productions, in enriching the hand that cultivates them.

All these beauties, notwithstanding, cannot be compared to those of the country about Zaragoza: three rivers and a canal offer their tribute in fertilizing it; the soil wonderfully

derfully assisting the cultivator, produces to admiration fruits of every sort, and grain of every species; the large and beautiful plain which is situated at the north east of this town, between the Galego and the Ebro, unites every possible beauty.

A great plain, situated amidst mountains, at the confines of Catalonia and the kingdom of Valencia, of which Albarrazin is the chief place, is equally beautiful and rich; it is uncommonly fertile in wheat and other kinds of corn, in oil, flax, hemp, mulberry trees, and in every sort of fruit; it is indebted for its fertility and profuse abundance, to the watering, facilitated by five rivers which run through it.

These, however, are but portions of land which are widely asunder, that produce abundant harvests, and display brilliant culture; for a great part of Aragon lies fallow; yet the earth requires but a trifling degree of labour. Even the harvests sometimes perish from drought, notwithstanding the great number of rivers which flow through this province, and this for want of labourers for culture and watering.

There is much more corn, wine, and oil, collected here than are necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants, and these articles are sent into the neighbouring provinces; but were the population equal to the extent of the land, the quantity would be found insufficient. It is true, that in that case a greater quantity of land would be put into cultivation, and that then its productions would not only be augmented in the like proportion, but that there would remain a still greater quantity for exportation! Plantations are also very much neglected; we may traverse spaces of considerable extent without perceiving a tree; we do not find them even in the environs of several villages, and watering is neglected to a surprising degree, considering its great importance in a country where it seldom rains, and where the drought is almost always excessive. The inhabitants take advantage only of the waters which they find on the spot, but have not yet extended their industry so as to seek them from remote parts, to bring

bring them into places where they may be of the greatest utility. It seems as if they would leave all to nature, without troubling themselves with the art of extending her bounty.

It may then be said that in general agriculture is very much neglected, or not well understood in Aragon, with the exception of some favoured spots, where the land is sufficiently rich in itself, and defies the want of industry. If this neglect arises chiefly from depopulation, the poverty of the people contributes to it in no small degree. Want is the more general amongst husbandmen, from their having no other kind of resource, and from their passing almost eight months in the year, from seed time until August, without being able to work themselves, or employ their families, their servants, or cattle. This wretchedness will continue, until they discover that the perfection of agriculture, and a more extensive and varied cultivation, are the means to surmount it.

It seems however that this period is approaching; Aragon is already indebted, and in the course of time will be still more indebted, to the society of the friends of the country, established at Zaragoza, who exert the greatest efforts to rouze the Aragonese from their supineness. They have established an agricultural school at Zaragoza, and encourage this branch, but still more the planting of trees, the culture of different fruits in appropriate soils, and the recovering and preserving mountains and woods; prizes are annually distributed to those who distinguish themselves in any of these. The efforts of this society have produced sensible effects; and within these few years, plantations have multiplied exceedingly. The territories of Zaragoza, of Fuente de Ebro, of Pedrola, Muel, Alcada de Ebro, are already covered with a great variety of trees. Monte Terrero, in the neighbourhood of Zaragoza, has been lately cleared, and planted with vines and olives, which are now of great value. This society is also employed in the means of improving and extending the irrigation of the lands. This may be very easily accomplished, Aragon abounding in rivers, which may be conveyed and

and the grand canal for this purpose furnishes a new and very important resource.

This society have just formed an establishment, which must very much benefit agriculture. They have obtained a fund from the king, of four hundred thousand reals, or 4166l. sterling, with which they have founded a Monte-del-Piedad, where money is advanced to the poor husbandmen to enable them to get in their harvests, and where they are furnished with cattle for the purposes of husbandry; when they chance to lose their own by death or some other accident; and they are allowed two years to repay, by different instalments. They renew the loans every six months to the different territories and villages of Aragon, taking each in their turn. The society take care to purchase cattle in the places where they are raised, in order to procure them at a cheaper rate. This plan began to be put in execution in the month of June 1801, by distributing forty four thousand reals, (458l. sterling,) to one hundred and ten husbandmen; and in the month of August following, a like number of different men were furnished with sixty two horses.

The productions of Aragon are considerable, and consist of wheat, oil, wine, fruits of every description, flax, hemp, barley, maize, peas, haricots, beans, potherbs, saffron, almonds, kali, spart, silk, and wool; nor is there any district, however neglected, which does not produce sufficient corn for the consumption of the inhabitants, and several yield more than is necessary.

The district of Jaca, although very mountainous, generally produces on an average fifty thousand cahizes*, and 47,500 only are consumed: Albarrazin 147,000, and the consumption is only 137,000: Zaragoza, Huesca, Barbastro, and some other neighbouring territories, a quantity sufficient to send fifty thousand cahizes out of the province; and Tor-

* Ten arobas and an half of Castile weight, or two hundred and sixty two pounds averdupois.

rente, and Bivera de Cinca produce more than they consume: Teruel more than double its consumption; Borja, Tarajona, Daroca, and Calatayud, reap somewhat more than they use, but the overplus is very inconsiderable, flax and hemp being their principal productions.

Barley, maize, and the larger grains, would abound in Aragon, but the people hardly give themselves the trouble of cultivating them; in the territory of Zaragoza they are most cultivated. Three-fourths of the land of Aragon is fit for the cultivation of the olive, which is very much neglected there; it is attended to only in some parts.

The *partidos*, or districts of Alcaniz, and of Barbastro, furnish sufficient to supply two large provinces, and they alone deserve notice. We find, however, olives in many other places, but their produce is of little importance. The olive here is generally mild, and the oil good; those of the *partido* of Barbastro are excellent, but those of the *partido* of Alcaniz are still superior. The oil might be improved, were they to attend more carefully in making it, by collecting the olives before they become perfectly ripe, separating those that are spoiled, taking care that they do not remain too long heaped together, and consequently that they do not ferment, which gives them a tartness more or less powerful.

The territories of Ayerbo, Somontano, Zaragoza, Huesca, Barbastro, Tarazona, Calatayud, Borja, Daroca, Benevarre, of the five towns, of Bolea and of Loarre, abound extremely in wine. Those of Somontano, Tarazona, Calatayud, Borja, Daroca, and the five towns, produce more than their consumption; that of Benavarre produces commonly 12,000 *nietros**, above their consumption, Ayerba seven thousand, Bolea three thousand, Loarre nine hundred; Zaragoza produces nearly from

* This measure is equal to sixteen cantaros, each twenty five pounds eleven ounces (at twelve ounces to the pound), or nineteen pounds seven ounces avoirdupois; the nietro is consequently four hundred and forty two pounds twelve ounces, or four hundred and twenty pounds avoirdupois.

fifty

fifty to sixty thousand nietros, and hardly consumes more than fifteen thousand.

The wines of Aragon are in general excellent; they have great strength and richness, consequently are very proper for exportation. They would be still better, if more attention were paid in making them, and in the choice of the land in which the vines are planted. But the greater part of the grapes are gathered before they are perfectly mature; poverty obliges the owners to dispose of them on the tree, and even to accelerate the moment of sale, to supply their wants. Vines are frequently planted in rich land, which would be excellent for corn, but produces wine of a very inferior quality. Stony ground is however frequent in Aragon, and it is here we find wine of the first quality. Besides the red or ordinary wines, there is a very good white wine made at the Chartreuse de Aula Dei, a muscadel wine at Borja, grenache at Cariñena, Subayes, and in some other places. At Cariñena we find another description of wine called *partridge-eye*, of a pleasing flavour.

The territories of Zaragoza, Alcaniz, Caspe, Caluanda, Albalate del Arzobispo, Ijar, Maella, Calaceyte, Fresneda, Almunia, Daroca, and Calatayud, produce exquisite fruits of all kinds,; Albarrazin also yields a great quantity, and of excellent sorts.

The soil of Aragon is also very favourable to flax of the finest quality, yet this useful production is cultivated in very few places. It abounds in the valleys of Daroca, and Calatayud, and in the *partido* of Tarazona; the *partidos* of the Ciucovillas and of Borja yield the greatest portion: in the former they gather about 10,000 arobas, or 2,500 quintals, of which 9,500 arobas, or 2,375 quintals, are consumed in the country. The town of Borja alone grows 3,300 arobas, or eight hundred and twenty five quintals; and the other places in this *partido* grow more than their consumption. The flax of Borja is accounted the best.

Hemp succeeds still better than flax; and it is more extensively cultivated, doubtless because it requires less care. In the *partidos* of Barbastro, Huesca, and Teruel, it is cultivated, but in the *partidos* of Calatayud, Daroca, and Tarazona, it is most abundant; according to a calculation made by order of government in 1778, they collect *communibus annis*, about 111,132 Castilian arobas, or 27,833 quintals, of which 29,400 arobas, or 7350 quintals, only are used in the country, and the remainder is disposed of in commerce. The culture of hemp has been very much increased within these few years; and the hemp is of an excellent quality, but they dress it badly.

Saffron was formerly a considerable object here; it was cultivated particularly at Monegros, at Fuentes, and at Quinto; it is very much diminished at present. It is cultivated in several places, at Torrijo, at Camino-réal, at Fuentes-claras, at Poyo, at Almoncil de la Cuba, at Azuara, at Aguilon, at Atojos, at Herrera, at Villar de los Navarros, and several other districts; but its cultivation is very much restrained throughout the country, and the united produce of little value.

We find almond trees in the *partido* of Huesca, and this is the only place where the cultivation of this tree is important, notwithstanding that they might be easily and advantageously multiplied in several parts of Aragon.

Kali was formerly an article of importance to this province; but the trade of Barilla has superseded it, and it is now scarcely attended to.

The culture of mulberries, and the management of silk worms had been neglected in Aragon. Within these few years they have begun to attend to them. Mulberry trees have been planted in the territories of Zaragoza, Albarrazin, Caspe, Alcaniz, Albalate, and in some other places; silk worms are bred here. About 140,000 pounds of silk are annually spun, almost half of which is sent into Catalonia.

The mountains of Aragon are covered with excellent pastures, and we find some equally good in several places situated

at

at the foot of those mountains; but the best are found near Jaca, Benavarre, Albarrazin, and Belchite. Flocks of sheep are bred here, but they might be considerably increased; thereby affording a double advantage, in the produce of wool, and the improvement of the land. They yield more or less wool, of which the mean quantity, one year with another, is as follows: The *partido* De Benavarre produces 5800 arobas, or 1450 quintals of wool, of which 5500 arobas, or 1275 quintals, come from the valley of Benosque, and the mountain of Castanesa alone, of which about 150 arobas, or 37 quintals and a half, are used in the country. The *partido* De Cinco-Villas produces 24,000 arobas, or 6000 quintals, of which 7000 arobas, or 1750 quintals, are manufactured in the country; that of Albarrazin 12,000 arobas, or 3000 quintals, 5000 arobas, or 1250 quintals of which serve for the manufactories of Albarrazin, Terriente, Moscardon, and Frias. The *partido* of Jaca produces 21,800 arobas, or 5450 quintals, of which 17,000 arobas, or 4250 quintals remain in the country, namely, 2000 arobas, or 500 quintals in the valley of Anso, which leave Aragon; 2800 arobas, or 700 quintals in the valleys of Serrablo, Broto, and Tenu, which leave the country; 7000 arobas, or 1750 quintals in the territory belonging to Jaca and its environs, which are manufactured in this town; 5000 arobas, or 1250 quintals in the territory of Buescas and the neighbouring places, which serve for the manufactures of that town; 5000 arobas, or 1250 quintals in other parts of this *partido*, and which they work up entirely there. The territories of Belchite, of Cariñena, of Zaragoza, produce about 30,000 arobas, or 7500 quintals, of which one-third serves for the manufactories, of Zaragoza, and 3000 arobas, or 750 quintals, for those of Epila, Belchite, Tarrazona, Calcena, Huesca, and Barbastro.

The wool of Aragon is beautiful, long, and fine; its quality varies however according to situation; the product of the valley of Benasque, is of the better kind, but those of the *partido* D'Albarrazin are superior to all the others.

TABLE

TABLE OF THE PRODUCTIONS OF ARAGON.

Productions.	Quantity.	PRICE.		THEIR AMOUNT.	
		Reals of Vellon.	Sterl.	Reals of Vellon.	Sterling.
			£. s. d		£. s. d.
Wine	162,000 metros.	64	13 4	10,368,000	108,000 0 0
Wheat	783,000 cahizes.	60	12 6	46,980,000	489,000 0 0
Flax	4,825 quint.	200	2 1 8	969,000	10,093 15 0
Hemp	57,700 quint.	170	1 15 5	9,040,000	94,243 15 0
Wool	50,000 quint.	232	2 8 4	6,960,000	435,000 0 0
Silk	140,000 lbs.	46	9 7	6,440,000	67,083 6 8
				80,757,000	1,203,426 16 8

This table is deficient in some articles, the quantity and produce of which are but imperfectly known, such as oil, kali, saffron, and fruits; the first is an article of considerable trade; the others are of little importance. From what has been said, we can judge how much agriculture is neglected in Aragon. If we compare its productions with those of Catalonia, and the kingdom of Valencia, on which it borders, and to which it is equal in fertility, we shall find a striking difference; it exceeds Catalonia more than one fifth in extent, and the kingdom of Valencia one third; notwithstanding this, the productions of Aragon do not exceed much more than 833,333l. 6s. sterling, whilst the produce of Catalonia nearly amounts to 1,666,666l. 12s. sterling, and that of Valencia to nearly 2,666, 666l. 13s. sterling. Thus that of Catalonia is double, and that of Valencia more than two thirds.

For some time past they have attended to the culture of madder, but as yet in a trifling degree.

Manufactories. This province might, with its own produce alone, supply a great number of different manufactories. There is excellent wool, fine silk, oils, flax, hemp, strong and high coloured wines, abundance of iron, earth well adapted for making earthen ware and porcelain; it might have manufactories of coarse and fine cloths, of different sorts of woollen, of silks, and of linens, brandy, iron articles, and soap manufactories:

factories: these establishments might become of considerable importance by improving agriculture, and by extending it; they would thus encrease the quantity of raw materials. On the contrary, the old manufactories have been suffered to decay. Those for cloths at Teruel were famous; but no longer exist; and the greatest part of the wool is sent to Catalonia and to France. They made excellent steel near Calatayud: but have given it up. Zaragoza had good manufactories of sword blades, and Calatayud, of cutlery; but these have fallen to decay. At Montalbon there was a body of workmen, who manufactured the fine jet which is found at Daroca; but it no longer exists.

The depopulation of this province might have contributed to a sort of indifference with regard to objects of such importance, but the want of vents for the exportation of merchandize has been one of the principal causes: the badness of the roads, the difficulty of conveyance, and great expence of carriage, might have been injurious to these manufactures. The new canal which has been just opened, will afford a vent and facility to this province for the conveyance of these commodities, particularly with the encouragement that the society of the friends of the country, established at Zaragoza, continually afford.

The manufactures of Aragon are at present few in number, and of little consequence. Villa Feliche has a considerable manufactory for gun powder; there are seventy mills at work. There are some trifling manufactories of paper at Aleca, Castejon, Calamocha, Sastrica, and at Zaragoza.

There are manufactories of soft soap in many places, but hard soap is scarcely ever made.

The town of Zaragoza has a small manufactory of fiddle strings.

There are three glass-houses at Alfamen, Penalva, and at Jaulin, which last is the most considerable, but the glass is dark; they also make fine and middling glass at Utrillas, but it is not handsome.

Barbastro had a manufactory of shoe soles which was celebrated: it declined; but it has been re-established for some years past. There is another in full employment at Brea. About two hundred arobas, or fifty quintals of soles, are annually prepared at Barbastro; and 3,000 arobas, or 750 quintals, at Brea: the soles here are of an inferior quality; this fault is attributed to the too great quantity of pine-tree bark, which is used in making them. There is a manufactory of leather and of skins at Zaragoza, Calatayud, Huesca, and Brea; the last is the most considerable: there are 40,000 skins annually prepared here, whilst the others united do not produce more than about twenty five thousand.

There are some small distilleries of brandy at Aragon, of which only five are of any consideration, one at Torres, and four at Graus.

A manufactory of earthen-ware, established at Villa Feliche, employs thirty eight workmen: the ware is of a very inferior sort. This article might be carried to a greater extent. In several parts of the province, earth is found of an excellent quality for earthen-ware, particularly in Zaragoza and in Tauste; the latter affords the best, which is very fine, and of three colours, and would answer for the making of porcelain.

Xea, Origuela, Torres, Tormoa, and San Pedro, in the territory of Albarrazin, have each a forge for iron; each of them works every year about 10,000 arobas, or 2500 quintals of iron. It would be easy to establish another at Benavarre, where there is a great deal of wood, and at Graus, where there is much water, and a good mine of coal, at a small distance from Biesla, where iron is good and in abundance. There is an inconsiderable manufactory of steel at Utrillas.

Aragon has no manufactory of fine linen: there is not any made here, except a very common sort, by private people. About 16,500 arobas, or 4,125 quintals of flax is used here; and the surplus, which is about 2,800 arobas, or seven hundred quintals, is sent into Castile: 40,000 arobas, or 10,000 quintals

quintals of hemp are likewise consumed here; whilst about 90,000 arobas, or 22,500 quintals, are sent away.

Silk is still less abundant in Aragon, consequently they cannot have any considerable silk manufactories; they make only a few taffetas at Zaragoza, where sixty-six looms use about five thousand pounds of silk in this way, and in a small quantity of silk stockings.

In all this province there is but one manufactory of second cloths, and that of an inferior quality, and this is at Albarrazin: it belongs to a company, and they manufacture, one year with another, about six or seven hundred pieces of cloth. Private people make very common cloths in the territory of Cinco-Villas, Albarrazin, Zaragoza, Epila, Belchite, Tarazona, Calcena, Huesca, and Barbastro.

At Jaca there are twenty-five looms, where about twelve hundred pieces of stuffs, of silk and wool mixed, of a hundred varas, or seventy ells each, are made; at Biescas there are sixty, by which are manufactured seven hundred pieces of the same length. They likewise make stuffs and camlets in some other places in the territory of Jaca, but they are of little consequence.

They manufacture other kinds of coarse woollens in the *partido* of Benavarre, in that of the Cinco-Villas, Terriente, Moscardon, Frias, Linares, Canta Viega, Villaroya, Alcaña, Rubielos, Mora, Mosqueruela, Jaca, in different parts of its territory, and at Zaragoza, Epila, Belchite, Tarazona, Calcena, Huesca, and Barbastro.

They make worsted garters at Villaroya, and worsted stockings in several places, particularly in the territories of Cinco-Villas and Jaca; this place manufactures sufficient to export annually seven hundred and twenty dozen pair. They make blankets at Zaragoza, but in small quantities, using only about a hundred and twenty-five quintals of wool yearly.

In the whole of these manufactures, only about forty thousand arobas, or ten thousand quintals of wool, are consumed on an average yearly; whilst about eighty thousand arobas,

or

or twenty thousand quintals, are sent into Catalonia and to France.

The patriotic society of Zaragoza, whose attention extends to every circumstance of public utility, endeavours to encourage spinning, which would be an object of great advantage in a country where the flax and hemp are excellent. This society have established a free school for spinning, and distribute every year publicly, prizes to the pupils in the school: twenty-six prizes were distributed in August 1801; fourteen in money, to that number of pupils the least advanced amongst those who had made most progress; six, to six others, still more advanced than those, consisting each of a spinning wheel and a pound of flax, that they might work on their own account, in their own hours; and six other prizes, to six other pupils the most advanced, each of fifteen hundred reals, or 15l. 12s. 6d. sterling, to be paid to them on the day of their marriage, as a portion.

Commerce. The principal trade of this province consists of the exportation of some of its productions: but instead of enriching, it impoverishes the country, by depriving it of the raw materials for manufacture. Corn and wool are the chief articles. Nearly 2500 cahizes of corn are annually sent out of the *partido* of Jaca; 10,000 from that of Albarrazin, into the kingdom of Valencia; 17,000 from that of Teruel; 50,000 from the territories of Zaragoza, Huesca, Barbastro, and some neighbouring places, into Catalonia; 6000 from the territories of Torrente, Tamarite, and Rivera de Cinca. The total exportation amounts to 85,500 cahizes, or 213,750 quintals of corn, which, at the rate of sixty reals, or 12s. 6d. the quintal, give 5,130,000 reals, or 53,437l. 10s.

Benavarre exports, upon an average, annually 5650 arobas, or 1412 quintals of wool, of which 5500 arobas, or 1275 quintals, are sent into France, and a hundred and fifty arobas, or twenty-seven quintals and a half, into Catalonia: 17,000 arobas, or 4250 quintals, go from the Cinco-Villas; 7000 arobas, or 1750 quintals from Albarrazin, which are sent into France and

and to Tarassa, in Catalonia; 4800 arobas, or 1200 quintals from Jaca, which are carried to France and Catalonia; 20,000 arobas, or 5000 quintals from Zaragoza, Belchite, and Cariñena, into Catalonia; 17,000 arobas, or 4250 quintals from Teruel, and the neighbouring territories, which are sent into France and Catalonia. There results a total of 78,450 arobas, or 19,612 quintals; to this should be added, small unknown portions of divers territories, which united, form something considerable.

Oil is another article of exportation; a large quantity is exported from the territories of Alcaniz and Barbastro; that of the former is sent partly into Aragon, where it is wanted, and partly into Castile; and that of the latter into France, and to the ports of Barcelona and Saint Sebastian.

The exportation of wine would be considerable, were it easily accomplished. The overplus of that of the territories of Somontano, Huesca, and Barbastro, is sent into some parts of Aragon, which have not any. Tarazona, Borja, Calatayud, and Daroca, have 6000 nietros remaining; Benavarre 12,000; Cinco-Villas 2000; Ayerba 7000; Bolea 3000; Loarre 900; Zaragoza, and some small neighbouring territories, 40,000, which give a total of 76,900 nietros. It is annually sold upon an average for four reals of vellon, or ten pence the cantaro, consequently sixty-four reals, or 13s. 4d. the nietro. The amount is 4,897,600 reals, or 51,016l. 13s. 4d. sterling; yet the price is very low, which discourages the cultivator.

Silks, kali, saffron, and flax, are also articles of trade, though of little importance; the same may be said of the fruits, a considerable part of which are sent into Castile. Hemp is an article of much more consideration: about 47,000 quintals are annually exported, of which the principal part is taken for the magazines of the royal navy; they bring about 7,590,000 reals of vellon, or 79,062l. 10s. sterling.

The manufactories of this province furnish no articles of exportation, except some pieces of cloth at Albarrazin, which are sent into the kingdom of Valencia and to Old Castile; about

about six hundred pieces of silk and woollen stuff from Jaca, which are sent into Navarre and Guipuzcoa; two hundred pieces from Biescas are also sent to Navarre, and seven hundred and twenty dozen pair of worsted stockings.

TABLE OF THE EXPORTS OF ARAGON.

Commodities.	*Quantity exported*	AMOUNT.		
		In Reals of Vellon.	*Sterling.*	
			£.	*s. d.*
Wheat	85,500 cahizes.	5,130,000	53,437	10 0
Wool	20,000 quint.	4,680,000	48,750	0 0
Flax	700 quint.	140,000	1,458	6 8
Hemp	47,000 quint.	7,590,000	79,062	10 0
Silk	80,000 lbs.	3,680,000	38,333	6 8
Coarse cloths . . .	160 pieces.	256,000	2,666	13 4
Silk and wool mixtures .	800 pieces.	560,000	5,833	6 8
Worsted stockings . .	720 doz. pair	51,840	540	0 0
		22,087,840	230,081	13 4

It appears that almost the whole of the commerce of Aragon consists of imports. This province sends its raw materials abroad, and receives them back manufactured; it has no fine cloths, fine linens, iron ware, cutlery, silks, galoons, nor ribands. Although there is a manufactory for shoe-soles, it receives some annually from Catalonia, to the amount of 4,000,000 reals, or 41,666l. 13s. 4d. sterling. There are glass-houses, but the glass is coarse, which obliges them to procure a great deal of a superior quality from Pajarejo and Recuenca in Castile, as well as from Catalonia; in short its exports are not equivalent to a tenth of its imports.

However, the society of the friends of the country, founded at Zaragoza, never omit any means of encouraging them, and they promote the establishment of new manufactures. They have established schools, where lessons on the elements of commerce are given. Their exertions are likely to produce happy effects.

Roads,

Roads, Inns, Carriage. Nature has formed the roads of Aragon; they owe but little to industry, and are not so good as those of Catalonia. The soil is more firm, but it is also more stony and rugged. The ascents and descents are also more frequent and difficult. On entering Aragon, we begin to find those dreadful *posadas*, where every thing is deficient. They have been already described; we find in them detestable rooms which afford only bedsteads, a total want of every kind of food, extreme dirtiness in the kitchens, exorbitant prices, and a brutal or uncivil reception from the landlords, so that whether in sitting rooms or bed-chambers, every thing seems united to throw a traveller of the best temper into despair.

Carriage is the same here as in Catalonia, with this difference, that the horses and carriages are not taken so much care of. The Aragonese attend very little to this particular, and the good carriages which we meet with, do not belong to this province.

Natural History. Aragon is full of lofty mountains, some of them form part of the Pyrenees, the others are ramifications or continuations of them. In general they abound in aromatic and medicinal plants; amongst others we find a great deal of the Uva Ursi, in a wood of pines on leaving Molina. Several of these mountains are covered with rocks, which are neither clayey nor calcareous, and which when reduced to powder, do not harden or calcine in the fire, nor dissolve in acids.

Mount Cayo is celebrated for its height, commanding almost the whole of Aragon; for the richness and variety of its productions, and for the frequent storms which rise on its summit, to the terror of the surrounding country. It is situated between Navarre, Old Castile, and Aragon; it is supposed to be three leagues and a half in breadth; it is terminated by two peaks, one on the east towards Aragon, the other on the west on the side of Old Castile. Its sides are covered with villages. It is very abundant in medicinal plants,

plants, and crowded with trees of all sorts half way up, and amongst them we find a great many fruit trees.

Minerals of various kinds, are found in great abundance on the mountains of Aragon.

There is a mine, which is said to be gold, in the valley of Hecho.

Remains of silver mines are to be seen, which were formerly worked at Calzena, Benasque, and Bielza.

There are lead mines at Zoma, Benasque, near Plan, in the jurisdiction of Barbastro, in the valley of Aure, on the top of the Pyrenees, and on the mountain of Solun; the last is mixed with very soft spar; it is very rich, and the mine of Plan is very abundant.

There are mines of copper near Plan, near Calomocho, on an eminence half a league from the mountain of Platilla; on that mountain at two leagues north-west of Molina; and on the mountains which separate Aragon from New Castile towards Molina. In these mountains there are two mines, the copper of which is of a white and very fine grain, and is found between rocks of quartz. That of Platilla is formed between pieces of white quartz, and is blue, green, and yellow, mixed with a white calcareous earth. The excavations of this mine are full of stalactites, which when analized, prove to be a mixture of brass and calcareous earth; at half a league from this on an eminence there is another mine, which was worked by the Romans.

The iron mines are very numerous; they are found at Zoma, Almoaja, Torres, Noguera, and at Ojos Negros, to the east of Albarrazin, at Bielsa, on the mountains which separate New Castile from Aragon, and between Molina and Alharrazin. There are three mines on these last mountains; one is degraded and converted into brown oxide of iron; the country people mistake it for a mine of red lead; another is of very soft iron; and the third, which is a league from the preceding, is in a rock of quartz, and very abundant, but useless, the iron

iron it produces being very brittle. The mine of Ojos Negros is very rich, and that of Bielsa very abundant; the last is excellent, and is worked with equal skill and success. One of the mines of Albarrazin is in a soft, and the other is in a calcareous earth.

Aragon is rich in alum. An earth is found at the foot of some hills in the environs of Alcaniz; it has employed from time immemorial, the inhabitants of four neighbouring villages; it is disposed of crude, at a low price, to the French, who refine it, and sell it again to the Spanish dyers. There is a rich mine of alum near this, the alum of which is fine, pure, free from any foreign mixture, and requires nothing more than to clear it from the earth and dirt; the country people sell it crude to the French, who refine it and sell it again at a very dear rate to the Spaniards. If alum were refined in Spain, there would be sufficient for the manufactures of the country independently of foreigners, and it would become an article of exportation.

There are two sorts of emery, one between Tortuera and Milmarcos, in the lordship of Molina. This is in detached stones, black and heavy, and which, being ground, produce a dust composed of rough and sharp particles. The other is, as it were, marbled with quartz, and contains gold; but in so small a quantity, that it is neither worth the trouble nor expence necessary to separate it.

There is an abundant mine of cobalt in the valley of Gistau, near the summit of the Pyrennees; the grain is very fine, and of a dark blue colour, clearer however than the cobalt of Saxony: it is worked by Germans.

There are mines of very fine jet scattered towards Utrillas, in the territory of Alcaniz, and near Daroca; these also are worked by foreigners, and the jet is sent in a crude state to France.

There is a mine of rock salt above Zaragoza, almost on the banks of the Ebro. Sulphur mines near Plan and Villel, Lapis calaminaris near Linarez del Arzobispo; of Blood-Stone

near

near Grustau, in the territory of Barbastro; and of coa. in the same place, and at Graus.

A rock, on a hill of earth and calcareous stones, within gun shot and to the south of Molina, is entirely covered with cornelians; which are also found scattered in its interior.

Asphaltes, from which a black petrolium is extracted, is found in the territory of Albalate, near the Pereyron of San Antonio Abbé; it is in a defile, where the road to Alcaniz passes. A thick matter, supposed to be petrolium, is said to ooze continually from a little column of rough stone in the chapel of our Lady Canodilla, in the territory of Estadilla, and jurisdiction of Barbastro.

The side of a hill, on the southern bank of the Gallo, half a league from Molina, abounds in crystals, which are found on stirring the earth; they are formed like pillars, with equal sides, and some of them an inch long. They are calcareous, dissolve in acid, and afterwards decrepitate in the fire.

Pieces of rock-crystals are likewise found on paths by which we descend into an iron mine, between Albarrazin and Molina, and of which we have already spoken; they are of different sizes, from that of a lentil to an inch.

In the vicinity of Almodebar and Molina, there are several quarries of plaster. There is one on the top of the mountain of Albarrazin, the plaster of which is beautiful; it is sprinkled with yellow, red, and white.

The mountains of Aragon abound in marbles: there are some of different colours at Riela, Calatrao, Estadilla, Escatron, and Alhama; on the mountains Puebla de Alborton, on those of Jaca, in the valleys of Hecho, and Confranc. There is some black at Albalate; and blue, yellow, and white, at Tabuenca in the *partido* De Benavarre. The rocks in the environs of Molina are of a white and flesh marble. A hill, situated about a quarter of a league from that town, on the road towards Madrid, is entirely of red, yellow, and white marble; the grain is similar to the marble of Carrara.

Fossil

Fossil shells are likewise very numerous here. A little eminence of calcareous stones, with a mill standing before it, about three quarters of a league from Molina, on the side of the southern bank of the Galego, is covered with them: there are buccina, tellina, ostrea, smooth, fluted, and scaly; belemnites covered with vermicular tubes; terebratula round, spherical, triangular, and fluted; the triangular ones are concave. A cultivated field, a league from the same mill, descending along the river, near the hamlet of Castilla la Hueva, contains similar belemnites, and many beds of shells. We again find the horn of Amon, and several other fossils, on the mountains of the Sierra between Peralejos and Cuença; land and river shells, and buccina, on the top of the hill Cueva Rubia, near and to the north of the village Concud, a league from Teruel.

This last hill presents another singularity. The interstices of its rocks are full of bones of oxen, the teeth of asses and horses, the bones of smaller domestic animals, and human bones, particularly the shin and thigh bones, the cavities of which contain a crystalline matter: none of these bones are petrified.

There are many intermitting fountains in Aragon, near the spot where the ancient monastery of San Juan de la Peña stood; at the entrance of the valley of Tena, near Biescas; in the territory of Frias, and jurisdiction of Albarrazin; at Crivillen, a village, near Alcaniz. The two first bear both the name of *Fuente Gloriosa*, or Glorious Fountain. That of Frias issues out of sand; it alternately flows and ceases several times a day. The country people call it *Fuente Mentirosa*, *Fuente Burlona*, and *Fuente del Suspiro;* that is to say, Lying Fountain, Jeering Fountain, Sighing Fountain. There are two at Crivillen, which do not flow but in years of drought; they are dry in rainy years; they are called *Calderas*, or Caldrons, having that form.

Aragon has also some salt waters, from which salt is extracted by evaporation. There is a salt spring at half a

league from Fuente Garcia, which supplies Albarrazin and twenty eight villages in that jurisdiction with salt. There is a salt well at the foot of the hill where the village of Arcos is situated, on the confines of the kingdom of Valencia. On the south of the village of Used, there is a pool called Gallocanta, from which bitter salt, and culinary salt are extracted.

The mineral waters of Aragon are not known, having never been analized. There are hot springs at Alhama de los Banos, five leagues from Calatayud; near Alquezar, five leagues from Barbastro; at Apies, three leagues from Huesca; at Baños de N. S. de Arcos, in the territories of Arnño and Albalate; near Billel, four leagues from Teruel; at Paracuellos de Xiloca, near Molina; at Tiermas, on the confines of the kingdom of Navarre; and at Teruel. There are others near Juseo, on the mountain Ardos, at Quinto, at Benasque, at Baranco del Salto, near Calatayud; those of Nuestra Señora de Arcos, Teruel, and Alhama, have baths. The latter were famous, and very much frequented; but are at present much less so.

Most of the rivers of Aragon abound in fish, particularly trout are caught in abundance, chiefly in small rivers, and in the vicinity of mountains; there are salmon-trout in the Gallo, which are excellent.

Several sorts of animals are found in the mountains in this province. Wolves are very common; and there are some bears on the tops of the Pyrenees, in the valleys of Gistau, and Aura, situated almost at the summit of these mountains, near the frontiers of France; and in the adjacent mountains there are isards and lynxes.

State of the Arts and Sciences. The arts and sciences are not very flourishing in Aragon. The people here, formerly more warlike than studious, neglected these important objects. Nor has the tranquillity which has succeeded long and disastrous wars opened a career to them; establishments have been wanting, where the inhabitants might imbibe the first principles, and the means of afterwards improving their knowledge.

There

There are two universities, one at Zaragoza, and the other at Huesca; the former has twenty-two professors for theology, medicine, law, and the arts; the latter has not so many; but neither the one nor the other has any establishment that can contribute to the spreading of knowledge, and the old method of instruction is still adhered to.

At Zaragoza there is a private school, where the mathematics, political economy, the elements of commerce, moral philosophy, and the law of nations are taught. This is a very modern establishment, and is owing to the beneficence of the society of the friends of the country, who, not satisfied with encouraging and improving agriculture and commerce, still endeavour to diffuse a taste for the sciences, and to facilitate the means of studying them.

A drawing school is the only establishment for the arts in Aragon to this day: this is at Zaragoza; and is owing to the generosity of a citizen, a friend to his country, Don Martin Goycochea, who defrayed all the expence of it; he provided the models, drawings, instruments, and every thing necessary to render his purpose efficient.

The Aragonese possess every requisite to succeed in the sciences; a native vivacity, a lively imagination, and solid judgment; they only want an opportunity to develope the gifts which they have received from nature; and Aragon has produced, at different times, many persons who have distinguished themselves in different branches of the sciences, literature, and the arts.

This province gave to Rome the poets, Prudentius, who was born at Zaragoza, and Martial, who was from Bibilis, now Calatayud. Petrus of Zaragoza was a famous orator under the Goths, in the fourth century.

It reckons among the distinguished theologians of Spain, its Juan Michelo Perez de Heredia; Juan Antonio Uson; both of Daroca; Didax the bishop, Antonio De Arrytigoyti; and the renowned preacher Antonio Olivan Maldonado, both of Zaragoza: it boasts its famous lawyer, Iago Cancer of

Barbastro; and Servato de Aniñon of Zaragoza; its Juan Gascon of Calatayud, a distinguished philosopher of the sixteenth century; Didax Lopez of the same town, the commentator of Avicenna; Andres Ferrar de Valdecebro, also of Calatayud, a naturalist of the last century. It glories in having produced the politician Laurentius Gracian of Calatayud; Antonio Agostino of Zaragoza, who was at once a judicious historian, an enlightened lawyer, and a profound herald; and Juan Francisco Andres de Ustarroz of the same town, a poet, orator, and historian.

Aragon had its poets, besides those we have already named; and amongst others, Alberto Diaz de Foncaldo, of Zaragoza; and it had a crowd of distinguished historians: Agostino Ustarroz; Francisco Ximenes of Daroca; Gonsalvo Garcia De Santa Maria, of Zaragoza; Juan de Aguas of Daroca: the two last of the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries; Jerome De Blancas of Zaragoza, distinguished himself in the sixteenth, and is one of the most esteemed Spanish historians; Jerome Zurita his countryman and contemporary, deserves to be ranked with him; he wrote a Chronicle with truth and dignity, which was continued by Bartolomé Leonardo De Argensola.

Juan Pablo Bonet appeared at the commencement of the last century, who by his precepts on the art of instructing the deaf and dumb to speak, paved the way for the perfection to which it has since been carried.

Amongst the artists, Zarogoza claims the brothers Bayeu, and their cousin Francisco Goya, good painters of our days.

Character, manners, customs, dress, and language. The Aragonese, proud and serious, speaks little, and defends his opinions with firmness. He extols his country above all others; nor does he spare hyperbole in boasting of its beauties and advantages; and the least contradiction irritates him. He is blind to its faults, and to those of his countrymen; he has a natural asperity in his voice and manners; and his address consequently is not prepossessing. His haughtiness,

his

his dry reception, his serious air, cold manners, and abrupt tone, have something very repulsive to those who do not know him. This is what he is charged with; but truth obliges us to observe, that these defects are fully compensated by truly estimable qualities.

If the Aragonese are cold and serious, they are considerate, prudent, possessed of solid judgment, and good sense. Their prepossessions in favour of their country, do not blind them to the advantages possessed by others; they know them, and readily pay respect to the merit of foreigners. If they are proud, they are likewise civil; their reception of strangers, although cold and serious, is perhaps more sincere, than the politeness met with in other provinces. They have a lively imagination, and quick conception. They are skilful courtiers without falsehood, courageous without ostentation, and brave to rashness: their soldiers have always distinguished themselves in the Spanish army, and the province has produced many excellent commanders. Their character is naturally decided, firm, and immovable: they are haughty, daring, and ambitious, to which they often add indocility; and they never yield when it is necessary to fight for the defence of their privileges and their laws; this has often given rise to the greatest troubles.

This character of the Aragonese influences their habits and customs. They have always an air of reserve and ceremony, which gives a gloomy appearance even to their amusements. Every thing amongst them is done by rule and compass; every thing influenced by ancient usages; and the little they have copied from their neighbours is confounded with their old habits.

The ancient language of the Aragonese, was composed of different tongues. The counts of Barcelona, on ascending the throne of Aragon, brought with them the language spoken in their states, the Limosin tongue, known now by the name of the Catalonian. After the union of this province with the crown of Castile, the Castilian tongue was insensibly introduced;

duced; and is now the only language spoken, except amongst the common people, who mix with it many Catalonian expressions.

The waistcoat, the mantle, and round hat, constitute the dress of the middle ranks. The nobility, the magistracy, and persons in office, dress entirely in the French style; the people wear a waistcoat, and a jacket over it, which is often tied with a strap, a large round hat, and generally two, when obliged to expose themselves to the sun.

Simplicity of dress is more general in Aragon, than in the neighbouring provinces. The luxury of Catalonia and Valencia, has not made its way into this province rapidly; it begins, however, to spread here, and Aragon may soon have to repent, for luxury is always dangerous to a country which cannot support it but by obtaining from abroad the articles required for it; and this necessity must conduce to the impoverishment of the country.

KINGDOM OF NAVARRE.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In the fifth century, Navarre was still free from the yoke that the Alani, Suevi, and Vandals had imposed upon the two Castiles, Galicia, Asturias, and Andalusia. It was not until the year 470 or 472, that Euric or Evaric, a Gothic king, and the first who gave written laws to the Goths of Spain, took possession of the town of Pampeluna, and the surrounding country, the inhabitants of which were Roman Catholics. The Goths, though Arians, at first evinced a spirit of toleration; but very soon exercised an unheard of despotism, to compel a reception of the decree of the conventicle of Toledo in 579, in which the Catholics saw an impious mixture of Catholicism, and Arianism. From this time, suffering the most terrible vexations and provocations from the Goths, the people of Navarre and the neighbouring countries, attached to their faith, resolved to defend it, and rose in 581 against Leudivigilde, the Gothic king.

king. This barbarous prince, who had himself put to death his son St. Hermenegilde for professing the Catholic faith, subdued them by terror; he burned Vittoria in the province of Alava, and some other towns; upon which these people, known by the name of Vascones, determined to abandon a country which afforded nothing but violence and persecution, and passing over the Pyrenees, stopped in the territory that extends from the foot of those mountains to the banks of the Garonne, and which from the new settlers took the name of Gascony.

The country of Navarre was, in the end, as well as the rest of Spain, occupied by the Moors until 806, when they were driven out by Louis, king of Aquitania, the son of Charlemagne*, who took Pampeluna, and made many conquests on that side of Spain; Navarre from that period has been under the protection of the French Empire. But in 882 Aznar, ill treated by Pepin, king of Aquitania, a son of Louis le Debonnaire, taking advantage of the extraordinary contests of this monarch with his children, formed a party in Navarre, possessed himself of it, and caused himself to be declared count; it is said his grandson took the title of king. After his death, a count of Bigorre, having succoured Navarre against some new in-

* There are authors who pretend that Charlemagne had also conquered Pampeluna, so early as the year 778.

vasions

vasions of the Saracens, became the founder of a monarchy, which continued in his house for five hundred years. This house gave kings to Castile, whilst, by natural right, women transmitted the throne of Navarre to the houses of France, Evreux, and Champagne. In the fifteenth century, John II, king of Aragon, espoused Blanche, heiress of the crown of Navarre, and Leonora, their daughter, conveyed it back to the house of Bigorre, by her marriage with Gaston IV, Count of Foix and of Bigorre; Francis Phœbus, his grandson, succeeded him in 1479, and died in 1493, leaving his kingdom to his sister Catherine of Navarre, who was fourteen years old; who afterwards transmitted the crown to the house of Albret in 1494, having espoused John III, the son of Alain, Sire of Albret. In 1512, this king was excommunicated by pope Julius II, who laid his kingdom under an interdict, at the solicitation of Ferdinand V, called the Catholic, who had designs against France, and who, in fact, ultimately prevailed in depriving it of the most considerable part of Navarre situated on the other side of the Pyrenees, and which still belongs to Spain. It was not till this period that the kingdom of Navarre was dismembered. Its legitimate sovereigns were then confined to that part, situated on the French side of those mountains, called Lower Navarre, and which was united to the crown of France by Henry IV, whose father, Antoine de Bourbon, had espoused

Joanna

Joanna d'Albret, the grand daughter and heiress of queen Catherine.

That part of the kingdom, subject to the kings of Spain, has still preserved the ancient form of its government and constitution. It is governed by a viceroy. The courts in their form, powers, and legal proceedings, differ entirely from those of Spain. It is not only governed by its ancient laws, civil and criminal, but has preserved its own states, composed of the three orders, the clergy, the nobility, and the deputations of towns. The ancient money has also been preserved, namely:

Le Cornado, half a maravedis,	Fractions of pence.
L'Ocharo, or two maravedis,	
Le Gros, or six maravedis,	
La Tarja, or eight maravedis,	$\frac{1}{2}\ \frac{1}{12}$
Thus four Tarjas, and 2-7ths, are worth one real of vellon, or	$2\frac{1}{2}$

Navarre preserves also the privilege of receiving the greater part of foreign merchandize, without search or duty: nor is it subject to the customs, except when they leave Navarre for Old Castile; the first custom house is at Agreda.

Navarre was divided into five counties by Louis king of Aquitania; this division exists still, under the name of *Merindades;* of which the chief places are Pampeluna, the capital; Estella, Tudela, Sanguesa, and Olita. The situation of this province is to the north of Spain, shut in between the Pyrenees, Aragon, Old Castile, and Biscay.

It

It forms an irregular quadrilateral figure. The angles of which, north and south, are a little prolonged, and distant twenty five leagues, from each other; though counted but twenty three. Its mean length is eighteen leagues from east to west, and its mean breadth fourteen from north to south. In fine, it is bounded on the east and south by Aragon; on the south-west by Old Castile; on the north-west by Biscay; and on the north by French, or lower Navarre.

This is a rough country, abounding in steep mountains intermixed with valleys, and some small plains, which are very fertile. These mountains are the part of the Pyrenees which forms the western extremity of that grand chain; they are very lofty, and take different names. The most important of the valleys are those of Roncevaux, Lescou, Bastan, and Roncal. This last place is in the middle of the Pyrenees, and is consequently surrounded by steep and lofty mountains; it has been able to preserve a government of its own, which excludes all inequality amongst the inhabitants, who all pretend to an ancestral nobility; as do those of the valley of Bastan, which borders on the country of Labour, and is ten leagues in length, and five broad; it contains fourteen villages; Elizonda is the principal town.

Navarre is watered by the Ebro, and eight small rivers: the Queilas, the Aragon, the Irati, the Cidaco, the Arga, the Ega, the Bidazoa, and the Alhama.

Alhama. It has two bishoprics, one at Pampeluna, and the other at Tudela; two cathedral chapters, five collegiate chapters, seven hundred and fifty three parishes, seventy religious houses, twelve hospitals, two asylums, a grand military government under the administration of a viceroy; a particular military government, a royal council, a chamber of accounts, a university, four colleges for the education of youth; nine cities, one hundred and fifty four towns, and six hundred and thirty eight villages.

Road from the frontiers of France by Bayonne* to Pampeluna, seven leagues.

The Bidazoa, a river, which separates France from Spain.	
A Carthusian monastery,	
Maya, (a village)	
Elizonda, (a village)	
Venta de Belate,	$3\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.
A little river,	
Pampeluna, (a town)	$3\frac{1}{2}$

The river of Bidazoa, which divides France from Spain, gave occasion formerly to many contests between the sovereigns of these two kingdoms, each wanting to be the proprietor of it; a treaty between Louis XII, and Ferdinand V, terminated these differences; it was stipulated that the river should be common to both monarchs; and that they should receive the tolls equally, the king of

* From Bayonne to Pampeluna is reckoned seventeen geographical leagues.

France,

France, on whatever came from Spain into his kingdom, and the king of Spain on whatever passed from France into his states. This river became celebrated in the seventeenth century by the conferences which were there held between the ministers of France and Spain, Mazarin and Don Luis de Haro, who signed the famous treaty of the Pyrenees, which restored peace to the two kingdoms in 1659; and by the interview of the two monarchs, when the marriage of Louis XIV, with the Infanta, Anne of Austria, was determined upon. These conferences were held in an island of this river, not far from the place where we pass it: previously to this, it was called the Isle of Pheasants, but has since that taken the name of the Isle of the Conference.

After having passed the Bidazoa, we find a Carthusian monastery, situated at the foot of a high mountain of rocks of slate and quartz. Soon after this we go through the village of Maya, at the foot of the same mountain; it is the first village in Spain. We immediately enter the valley of Bastan, or Vastan, in which is situated the village of Elizonda, which we pass through. This valley is fertile in maize, turnips, &c. and leads to the foot of a high mountain of calcareous rocks, covered with trees and shrubs; to the top of this we climb by a winding difficult road, a little below which we find the Venta de Belate, a very bad inn, which hardly affords shelter from bad weather; but there

is

is no other here. We descend the same mountain by a gentle declivity, and come to a vale formed of small hillocks, composed of earth and calcareous stones, sown with grain, and planted with vines. We soon after come to a fine wood of oaks, which we cross to return again to the vale, by going along the side of a little river; we pass on to a circular plain of small extent, bounded by detached hills, which terminate this vale. Then we perceive the town of Pampeluna, where we arrive some time after.

Pampeluna, in Spanish Pampelona, the capital of Navarre, is moderately large, and is partly situated on a little eminence, and partly in a fertile plain, on the banks of the Arga, which washes a portion of its walls. Lofty mountains surround it on all sides, at two or three leagues distance. It is said to have been built by Pompey, after the defeat of Sertorius, whence it derived the name of Pompeiopolis.

This is a fortified town. Its fortifications are not however very considerable, but it is defended by two castles, one of which is in the town, the other contiguous, though without the walls. This last place, which is the citadel, was built by Philip II; it is strong, from its situation on the rock; it has five bastions covered with stone, and good fosses; a deep marsh, of considerable extent, renders the approaches to it difficult towards the side on which it could be attacked. This citadel has a handsome

handsome tower, several magazines, a square ornamented with trees, and an armory in the very centre of the fortress; which is round, and opens by five grand and straight streets, which lead to the five bastions. There is a hand mill preserved here, of rather an ingenious construction, and which would prove extremely useful, in case of a siege: it is a large machine, composed of several wheels, which turn five grinding stones, with as many hoppers; one hundred and twenty loads, or three hundred and sixty quintals of wheat, may be ground with it daily; it is turned with the hand, or may be worked by horses.

The Clergy. This town boasts of having been the first in Spain which received the light of the gospel: St. Saturninus is considered its first apostle by the inhabitants; and St. Firmin, his disciple, their first bishop. Its bishopric, one of the most ancient in Spain, was re-established after the expulsion of the Moors; it is suffragan to the mother church of Burgos: its diocese comprehends nineteen archpriesthoods, a great number of regular abbeys, and eleven hundred and fifty-six parishes.

The chapter of the cathedral of Pampeluna is regular, according to the order of St. Augustin; notwithstanding a custom has insensibly prevailed of appointing secular priests to the dignities, to the canonries and prebends; at this time, only the four first dignitaries are professed monks of the order of St. Augustin. This chapter comprehends twelve dignities, as many canonries, and forty four prebends and chaplaincies.

Another chapter, under the title of St. John the Baptist, is established in the same cathedral; it exercises especially the priestly

priestly functions, and is charged with the administration of the sacraments, with funerals, and anniversaries; a vicar presides, and it is composed of fourteen canons, and of two sacristans.

Administration. This town is the residence of the viceroy of Navarre; it has a governor, a staff composed of a king's lieutenant, a major, and two adjutants; the citadel has a particular staff, which comprehends a king's lieutenant, a major, and one adjutant. The strength of the garrison fluctuates according to circumstances, and it has a war auditor.

Population. Pampeluna has a population of about two thousand eight hundred families, composed of nearly fourteen thousand persons, occupying sixteen hundred and thirty-two houses.

In the capital of Navarre, the royal council, and the chamber of accounts of the province sit; here also the states hold their sittings.

The viceroy is president of the royal council, the supreme tribunal; and, in his absence, a regent presides; it is divided into two chambers, one with six counsellors, the other with four, under the name of alcades. The chamber of accounts has also four counsellors, the first of which only is of the law; a patrimonial, a kind of attorney to the king, and a treasurer.

Public Instruction. The college for the instruction of youth is a university, founded in 1608.

Public Edifices. Pampeluna contains a cathedral, three parishes, nine convents of monks, and two of nuns. The city is very confined, and very ill built; but the streets are kept with the greatest cleanliness; its public edifices exhibit nothing remarkable. There are some squares, two of which have tolerably handsome houses; that which is appropriated to bull-fighting, is very spacious. Besides, the town is very dull, without amusements, without society, without any thing agreeable;

able; which is attributed to the severity of the police. The men pass their time at the coffee-houses; but the women cannot enter them after sun-set.

The Cathedral contains the mausoleum of Charles III, a prince of the House of Evreux, king of Navarre, in right of his grandmother Joanna of France, and of Elenora of Castile, his consort. On the side of this church is a fine cloister of two rows of galleries, one over the other.

Manufactures and Commerce. The commerce of Pampeluna is but secondary, consisting merely of imports; it receives every thing from abroad; and its industry, with regard to manufactures, affords scarcely any thing with which to furnish its neighbours. There is an inconsiderable manufactory here of parchment, and one of leather, which is not much better; and another of coarse cloth, partly made at the Asylum, and partly by some weavers in the town: they also make common earthen-ware here, and blanch wax, which they import.

Celebrated Men. This town has given birth to a profound writer of the sixteenth century, Juan Huarte de San Juan; his *Examen de Ingenios* is a perfect work of its kind; it has been frequently translated into French, as well as into divers other languages. This excellent book was almost unknown in Spain at the commencement of the 18th century; the foreign translations have made it known. Father Feyjoo has very justly reproached his countrymen with this.

Road from Pampeluna to Saint-Jean-piè-de-Port, capital of French Navarre, by Roncevaux, sixteen leagues and a half.

Pampeluna to	
Zubiar, (a village)	4 leagues.
Bourguette, (a village)	5
Roncevaux, (an abbey)	½
Saint-Jean-piè-de-Port, (a town)	7

From Pampeluna we proceed to Zubiar, a village, for four or five hours, by a gentle and not toilsome ascent; the land we pass over is full of wood and furze, we ascend again after passing the village of Zubiar, and this ascent, which takes from five to six hours, is at first pleasant enough over a country planted with oak, and wild pears; but shortly after it becomes rough, and fatiguing, as far as the village of Bourguette, in this manner we climb very lofty mountains, fertile in pastures, and of which the hills are covered with fern: on this road we leave on the left, the beautiful valley of Baston, which is of immense extent and very fertile in fruit, in maize; it abounds in meadows, and is covered with flocks and herds. We scarcely pass Bourguette, when we enter on a very large, spacious, and beautiful plain, surrounded by high mountains, and called Playa de Andres Zaro; it is rendered famous by the battle said to have been fought there, in which Charlemagne was defeated in 778, and where the twelve peers of France sacrificed their lives. This battle, so celebrated by the old Spanish romance writers, has been contradicted by the historians of other nations, who have proved, that this monarch had never been in Spain. The town and abbey of Roncevaux are situated in this plain, which we reach in half an hour after leaving Bourguette; there is a monastery of regular canons here, and several inns of a middling description.

We

We soon reach the foot of mount Altobiscar, which is formed by a rock, somewhat resembling that of Sierra Morena, in the kingdom of Granada; it divides Spain and France. We proceed for two hours before we attain the summit of Altobiscar; we then descend by a steep and difficult road to the valley of Cise, in lower Navarre, of which Saint-Jean-piè-de-port is the principal place. The journey we have just described cannot be performed in carriages; we must walk or ride on horseback.

Road from Pampeluna, to the Frontiers of Old Castile, nineteen leagues*.

Pampeluna,	
Tafalla, (a town)	6 leagues.
Caparroso, (a village)	5
A Venta	4
Valtierra, (a village)	2
Frontiers of Old Castile, between Valtierra and Agreda,	2

On leaving Pampeluna we proceed on an uneven plain for two hours and a half; it is full of loose stones, and leads to the foot of a mountain, which we ascend, and pass over, after which we find the lands cultivated; and we enter on a vale covered with calcareous stones, where the little

* The road from Pampeluna to Madrid.

town of Tafalla is situated, through which we pass.

Tafalla, is rather a handsome little town, and was formerly one of the principal in Navarre, and for some time the residence of the monarchs. It had a palace built in the fifteenth century by king Charles III, of the house of Evreux; it had a university, and the states of Navarre were held there in 1473, by Eleonora, the daughter and heiress of king John II. Philip IV afterwards gave it the title of City. Nothing of its former grandeur remains, but the enclosure of the walls with which it is surrounded, and the ruins of its castle. The territory in which it stands produces good wine, near the little river Cidaco, which increases its fertility. The climate of this town is remarkable for its salubrity; there is a tradition that epidemic disorders have never been known here.

A vast plain presents itself on leaving Tafalla; it first appears covered with olive trees, then planted with vines, to which wheat and barley succeed; at length it becomes absolutely uncultivated; we are thus led on for five leagues to the village of Caparroso, where it is crossed by a hill: a vast desert succeeds this plain where we cannot perceive any kind of habitation, or any trace of cultivation. A lofty and unequal hill, filled with shallow veins of whitish gypsum, presents itself, and leads to a plain, parched, bare, and barren,

and

and we proceed along some hills equally uncultivated. The traveller goes on with ennui for three long hours through these tiresome roads, but soon after finds himself recompensed, by the rural scenery which presents itself to his view. A plain beautiful from culture, at once smiling and fertile, displays itself on a sudden; the land is shaded by numerous trees; various canals wind on all sides, proceeding from the Ebro, which we cross to reach a Venta, situated on its opposite bank. From this Venta we ascend hills which united form a chain, on the top of which is the village of Valtierra, which we pass. Ascending still for near two hours, we come to the limits which separate Old Castile from Navarre, about half way between Valtierra and Agreda. We distinctly perceive a very abundant mine of rock salt, near Valtierra, of which we shall speak in the sequel*.

Besides these different roads, there is a very bad one, which leads to Tudela, a town sixteen leagues distant from Pampeluna. It is the second town of Navarre; its population amounts to about seven thousand three hundred inhabitants; it has been ranked with the episcopal towns since 1783. Its fine bridge, its situation at the confluence of the Ebro and Queilas, surrounded by handsome walks, and tolerably fine environs, give it a very

* See the Natural History of Navarre.

picturesque

picturesque appearance. Its territory is good and productive. It raises seven thousand lambs annually.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT OF NAVARRE.

Population. Navarre must have been very populous formerly. The emigration of its inhabitants towards the end of the sixteenth century was very considerable. They went in great numbers, as we have already described, into the province of France, called latterly Gascony, and peopling a great part of it, they bestowed on it their name. There is room to believe that Navarre was not on that account deserted, nor deprived of all its people; many having remained, supporting with more resignation the yoke of the Goths, through attachment to their country. According to the enumeration of the years 1787, and 1788, the number of inhabitants ought to be now 287,382; in this number are reckoned,

Parish Priests	753
Secular Priests	1,166
Monks	1,120
Nuns	510
Nobles	13,054
Writers	172
Students	1,163
Servants	9,910

Agriculture. Navarre is a mountainous and cold country; the mountains, which are very lofty and frequently steep, in general present nothing to the view but bare rocks. We find, however, some considerable forests, and excellent pastures: it has some districts where the air is softer and more salubrious than in the neighbouring provinces of Spain. The fertile soil,

fit

fit for culture, is confined to a certain number of valleys, to some hills and plains, of more or less extent. It follows, that the productions of this province are limited and insufficient for the wants of the inhabitants.

There is wheat, rye, barley, maize, wine, a little oil, fruits, and pulse; but after having supplied the consumption of the country, rarely is there any remaining for any branch of constant exportation. Sometimes the wheat is sufficiently abundant to supply Biscay.

Generally the lands, which are of the best quality, are not made so productive as they might be. For example, the territory of Tudela is adapted to all sorts of tillage; it produces wheat, olives, barley, beans, haricots, excellent fruits, and hemp, but every thing is neglected to cultivate the vine. Amongst the wines of Navarre we distinguish those of Tudela, which have some resemblance to the wine of Burgundy, without its delicacy; those of Peralta are rich wines, approaching much to the wine of Saint Laurent, but are stronger, and more agreeable; they are made with the grape called Berbes: their colour is not unlike that of Sherry.

Cyder is made in some valleys; that of Baston supplies the best.

The lands in the district of Pampeluna are very well manured, and the crops are changed alternately for four years in the following order: wheat—beans—wheat—maize. Thus the ground never lies fallow: the fourth year they turn up the lands with the laya; the intermediate years simply with oxen.

Manufactures. Navarre never possessed any great manufactures. We have described those that are found at Pampeluna. There are some distilleries of brandy at Estela, at Fuente de la Reyna, and at Sanguesa. Cloth manufactories are not so unfrequently met with at Tudela as in other towns: they were instituted in companies, that is to say, in bodies of manufacturers, in the year 1438, in the reign of John II, and Blanche of Navarre. There are at Tudela six soap manufactories, others of tiles, bricks, and pottery. Estela has some looms

looms of coarse woollens. One league from Eguy, we find a manufactory of cast-iron, bombs, and balls, on the king's account. In fine, the town of Corella, which has about four thousand inhabitants, merits observation on account of its manufacture of liquorice juice, which is extracted from the wood of this tree, of which they make a substance, and export it in great quantities to the north of Europe, called in England Spanish liquorice.

Commerce. The commerce of Navarre is entirely confined to imports. This province furnishes little or nothing to its neighbours to balance it by exports. On the contrary, it obtains many articles necessary to its subsistence and cloathing from abroad. Even this commerce has been always very burthensome, from the difficulties and the dearness of importation. Formerly the roads were dreadful; often impassable; every thing was transported on the backs of mules. This obstacle no longer exists; new roads have been made: the roads are fine, the carriage easy, and not so expensive. The rivers Ebro and Bidazao afford an easy and cheap communication which might be favourable to the commerce of this province, and would itself develope the industry and activity of its inhabitants.

However, notwithstanding the little commerce and industry of Navarre, it is said to be in a state of prosperity, which is annually increasing, as its population and riches prove; nevertheless, this province may still obtain a greater degree of ease.

Natural History. The natural history of Navarre is so little known, that it may be supposed never to have been the subject of attention.

Iron mines are rather abundant. There are some at Veodrin, at Lugarchuelo, and in many other places. Near Pampeluna there is a copper mine, which was worked about the middle of the eighteenth century. We see out of the ground near Valtierra, and towards the middle of the side on which this village is situated, a mine of white rock salt, very abundant, in layers of gypsum, of about two or three inches in thickness,

thickness, and separated by layers of a saline dark blue earth: this mine is worked; it has a principal gallery, of about four hundred paces in length, and several collateral galleries of about eighty paces; they are supported by pillars of salt and gypsum, placed at regular distances, with tolerable art and skill. The interior of this mine resembles, in a great degree, an ancient church in the Gothic style. An intermitting fountain flows in summer, and ceases in winter, in the territory of Berrada, near the village Angostina. On the mountains we find plenty of game, hares, roebucks, foxes, wolves, wild boars, &c.

This province has some mineral waters, amongst others at Belascuain, a village two leagues from Pampeluna; at half a league from Aribe, at a village of the valley of Ayezcua, near Roncevaux, on the confines of France; at Fitero, a village seven leagues from Tafalla; at Fiermes, six leagues from Jaca; at Ysaba in the valley of Roncal; this is known by the name of Fuente de Ysaba; they are all hot springs. Those of Belascuain and of Fiermes have several sources; those of Fitero, Ysaba, and Fiermes have baths, and are used externally and internally; these last have a mud which is likewise used externally.

Arts and Sciences. The arts and sciences have been but little cultivated in Navarre. This province wants establishments, where the necessary knowledge of these subjects might be acquired. It has a university, but little known, because of little importance; it has four colleges, where they can hardly acquire the first elements of the Latin tongue.

Navarre, however, reckons a king amidst the *troubadours*, Thebaut I, of the House of Champagne, surnamed the *Song-maker*, who reigned nineteen years, and lived in the thirteenth century.

This kingdom has produced but very middling writers, two excepted, who distinguished themselves, and deserve to be recorded. The first is Roderic Simonis, commonly called Ximenez, who wrote, in the thirteenth century, a Chronicle of the Roman emperors and pontiffs, and another of Spain; the

second

second is Juan-Huarte de San-Juan, whom we have mentioned in the article of Pampeluna; he was a profound metaphysician, an ingenious, pure, and well informed writer, and one of those who have contributed the most to the honor of their country.

Character, Manners, Dress, and Language of Navarre. The inhabitants of Navarre are generally serious, reserved, proud, and brave; they are extremely nimble in running, and are considered the best leapers, and most expert players at tennis in Spain. They are reproached with being obstinate, opinionated, indocil, imperious, quarrelsome, and violent; but to compensate for this, they are allowed to be witty, acute, clever, and laborious. They have besides readily adopted the French manners. The dress or costume of the inhabitants of Navarre, is nearly the same as that of the Castilians; shades of difference are observed in certain districts, but they are very slight. On the mountains, the women have preserved their ancient mode of dressing: they wear their stays or corsets with tight sleeves, joined and fastened at the wrist; silk neck handkerchiefs, their hair in tresses, falling in a double row over the shoulders, and mixed with broad ribbons of divers colours.

The Castilian is spoken in Navarre; but this language is altered by a mixture of Biscayan, Catalan, and French. The true Biscayan is purer in French Navarre.

BISCAY AND ITS DISTRICTS.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Three distinct districts, which are like three small private states, with regard to their constitutional government, form by their union, the province of Biscay. It is divided into three parts in respect to its administration, to wit, Biscay-proper, or the lordship of that name, Alava, and Guipuzcoa. Geographers admit another division, by detaching four towns from the country.

The province of Biscay, as formed of all the above named divisions, is situated to the north of Spain, and inclosed between the Pyrenees, Navarre, Old Castile, and the Asturias; it follows the shores of the Cantabrian ocean from Bidazoa to the mountains of Sant Andero, and thus opens on the Gulf of Gascony and the Bay of Biscay: it is bounded on the east by Navarre; on the south by Old Castile; on the west by Old Castile and the Asturias; on the north by the above mentioned

tioned seas, and by a little point on the Pyrenees, which separates it from France. This country is very mountainous; its mountains are branches or prolongations of the Pyrenees, and are extremely lofty. Amongst others we distinguish those of Sant Andero, Gorveya, Salvatierra, Urbion, &c*. They are intersected by a great many agreeable valleys, some of which form small plains, and display a brilliant culture. Biscay is watered by eleven little rivers and brooks: the Ebro, Ega, Ansa, Bidazoa, Deva, Oria, Urumede, Urola, Isanza, Cadova, and Araxes.

The lordship of Biscay, or Biscay-proper (Cantabria) forms a triangle, and is bounded on the north by the ocean, or the Bay of Biscay; on the east by Guipuzcoa; on the south-east by Alava; and on the west and south-west by the country of the four towns. It is thirteen leagues from east to west, and six from north to south, in the middle of it, but only five at each of the extremities. Bilboa is the capital. Its principal ports are at Lequeitio and Laredo. Its principal rivers are the Ansa, and the Bidazoa.

Biscay contains a capital city, twenty towns, or boroughs, seventy parochial churches, and ten valleys, in each of which there are a number of villages. The whole population of the lordship is about 116,000 inhabitants, more than half of

* *Vide* Old Castile in which this has been mentioned.

whom

whom are dispersed in detached hamlets, and little known to travellers.

The canton of Alava has also a triangular figure; it is bounded on the north by the country of the Four-Towns and Guipuzcoa; on the east by Navarre; on the south by Roxia, in Old Castile; on the west-north-west by the country of the Four-Towns; and on the west-south-west by Old Castile. It is fourteen leagues from east to west, in the northern part, six in the southern part, and ten from north to south. Its towns are Vittoria, which is considered as its capital, Salvatierra, Lancujo, and Trivino. Its principal rivers are, the Ebro, the Ega, the Ansa, and the Urola. This district is surrounded by three large *cordilleras* of mountains, which join the Pyrenees. The highest is that which is situated towards the north, from the valley Lliodio to the confines of Navarre and Guipuzcoa; the second has several branches, more or less lofty, between them, which, extending from north to south, penetrate to the centre of Alava; the last separates the eastern part of this district from Navarre.

The figure of the district of Guipuzcoa is almost triangular, and the country is extremely mountainous; we may consider it as one continued mountain. It is bounded on the north by the Bay of Biscay, and the Gulph of Gascony; on the east by Navarre and Lower Navarre in France; on the south and south-east by Alava; and

and on the west by the country of the Four-Towns, which separates it from Biscay-proper. It is eighteen leagues from west to east, and twelve from north to south. The town of Tolosa is the capital of it; the other towns are Vergara, Placencia, Fontarabia, a fortified town, and Saint Sebastian, also a fortified town, and the residence of a captain-general. The coast of this province is about ten leagues in extent, in which there are three principal ports; Fontarabia, in latin *Fons Rapidus*, at the mouth of the Vidouza or Bidazoa; the Port of the passage, Los Pasages; and Saint Sebastian; the other ports are Orio, Zaranz, Guetaria, Zumaya, Deva, and Motria. Its principal rivers are the Bidazoa, the Deva, the Urola, the Oria, the Uramea, and the Araxes: and, like Alava, it is watered by a great number of streams and brooks. The Zaraya divides these two districts.

The country of the Four-Towns is long and narrow, inclosed between the lordship of Biscay, Guipuzcoa, Old Castile, and Alava. Its principal villages are Orduña, Oquenda, Messana, and Respulde, to which may be added Orto. It has but one river, the Anso, which is not remarkable.

The following table displays the province of Biscay.

720 Parishes . . . . { 165 in Biscay-proper. 120 in Guipuzcoa. 435 in Alava.

101 Convents

101 Convents	42 in Biscay-proper. 41 in Guipuzcoa. 18 in Alava.
47 Hospitals . . .	9 in Biscay-proper. 14 in Alava. 24 in Guipuzcoa.
10 Asylums . . .	5 in Biscay-proper. 1 in Alava. 4 in Guipuzcoa.

A grand Military Government.

6 particular Governments, including Sant Andero.

1 Captain General.

A College for Education.

4 Cities	1 in Biscay-proper. 2 in Guipuzcoa. 1 in Alava.
176 Towns or Boroughs	21 in Biscay-proper. 90 in Alava. 65 in Guipuzcoa.
446 Villages, &c. . .	102 in Biscay-proper. 300 in Alava. 44 in Guipuzcoa.

After the expulsion of the Moors, Biscay-proper, and part of Alava and Guipuzcoa, became dependencies of the kings of Oviedo in Asturia; another part of the two last districts belonged to the kings of Navarre, and afterwards passed to the dominion of the kings of Castile and Leon. It is not, until a century after the establishment of the Moors in Spain, that we meet the name of Biscay in history. All the districts that we have mentioned, which are now distinct by their rights and privileges, formed only one province, under the name of Cantabria, when Julius Cæsar invaded Spain, half a century before the Christian era.

The

The Cantabrians, under the shelter of their mountains, escaped at that time from the yoke of the Romans, and assisted by the Galicians and Asturians, acted offensively, and laid waste the countries which were subjected to Rome. Augustus assembled a formidable army, which entered Guipuzcoa and Alava. The Cantabrians and their allies being beaten on the plain of Vittoria (Victoria), retired for protection to their mountains; the Romans not being able to conquer them by force, endeavoured to reduce them by famine. The Asturians surrendered after the long and harrassing siege of Oviedo, where they were shut up; the Galicians surrounded on all sides, preferred death to the shame of laying down their arms; at last the Cantabrians, destitute of all kinds of provisions, determined to escape from slavery, by devoting themselves to a glorious death; and most of them destroyed themselves. Augustus entered Biscay, and, to hold the rest of the inhabitants in subjection, he took the principal ones for hostages, and distributed the lands among his soldiers. The Cantabrians soon seized a new occasion to take arms; but they were reduced, and Tiberius erected forts in this province to keep the whole country in a state of subjection. The Romans, in their turn, conquered and driven out by the hordes of the north, suddenly abandoned the Cantabrian province, the inhabitants of which had been fighting for a century either to preserve or to recover their liberty.

In

In the eighth century, the Moors having conquered the south of Spain, employed all their efforts against Galicia and the Asturias; but the Cantabrians still resisted, having at their head a prince of the blood of the Goths, who, first proclaimed king of Spain, was afterwards made duke of Cantabria. After having been a dukedom, this province became a county. Biscay-proper revolted, in the beginning of the tenth century, against a king of Oviedo, named Orduno II, in consequence of the imprisonment of Zeno, who governed it with the title of count; Suria, son-in-law to Zeno, was elected its chief; who having beaten this petty monarch, was proclaimed lord of Biscay, and transmitted the sovereignty of it to his descendants.

What is most certain respecting this last circumstance is, that this Suria, or Zuria, who is said to have sprung from the royal blood of Scotland, by his mother's side, is the root of several powerful families, as those of Mendoza, Roxas, Los Cameros, Bustos and Sobras, Carpio and Castrillo, who all pretend to this origin. One of the sons of Inigo Lopez, was, in the eleventh century, the father of the Mendoza family; and another Lopez, the eldest son Inigo, had two sons, the elder of whom, Lopez Deaz, was lord of Biscay, Naxera, and Haro, and the younger son, Sancho Deaz, was the stock of the Roxas. The descendants of Lopez

Deaz took the name of Haro; and sometimes allied themselves with the royal family. Lopez Deaz, surnamed Cabeza Brava, married Uraca, the daughter of Alphonso IX, king of Leon.

Diego Lopez de Haro, the third of the name, engaged in a war with Ferdinand III, the son of Alphonso IX, and to support it, he oppressed the Biscayans, who rose in rebellion: upwards of ten thousand of them determined to quit their country, because he violated their liberty *(no guardaba sus fueros);* Constance promised, in the name of her husband, that their privileges should be maintained; Haro, however, acting contrary to her promise, the Biscayans besieged him in Bilbao, and made him take a new oath to observe their charter. About the end of the thirteenth century, Lopez Diaz de Haro acknowledged the sovereignty of the crown of Castile; and wishing afterwards to retract, he took up arms against king Sancho IV, who caused him to be assassinated. This was one of the principal causes of the successive wars which took place between the kings of Castile and the successors of Lopez Diaz de Haro. This family enjoyed the feudal office of standard bearer to the crown of Castile.

It preserved the sovereign lordship of Biscay until about the middle of the fourteenth century, the period when Peter the Cruel, king of Castile and Leon, killed the Haro who then possessed it, and,

and, seizing on his states, united them to his own. The kings of Spain still take, among their titles, that of lord of Biscay.

The lordship of Biscay, the people of which esteem themselves descendants of the ancient Cantabrians, was formerly a free and almost independent country; but it has gradually lost many of the privileges which established its independence; it preserves only a shadow in the ruins which are still precious to it, and which it defends with warmth. It forms as it were a separate state, governing itself by its national assemblies; it has preserved its ancient laws, customs, and tribunals, and is in that respect totally distinct from the rest of Spain. It only owes to the king what it formerly owed to its lords; it pays its taxes in the form of a free gift; and, except some quit-rents which are imposed upon it, it establishes and directs the taxes, and assesses them upon the towns and communities within it. Whenever the crown demands an extraordinary contribution, it is formed by gifts entirely voluntary. Stamped paper is not received in this province, and every body is at liberty to sell tobacco and other articles, the exclusive sale of which the king reserves to himself in other places. It has not an intendant, and foreign merchandize is only subject to a duty called anchorage, and intended for the consulate. There are besides some municipal rights established upon grants. In paying itself what is due to the crown, the pro-

vince avoids seizures, distraining, and every kind of vexation. There are no revenue officers here but those of the port, for those of the custom house of Valmaseda and Orduña collect duties only on those articles that are introduced into Castile. Biscay is neither subject to a militia, nor to an impress of sailors; it furnishes for itself its contingent of soldiers and sailors; the king's troops cannot be quartered in this province, which obliges itself to maintain its police in peace, and to provide for its defence in war. Biscay has, by an act of queen Joanno, confirmed by the successors of her son Don Carlos, the title of the *very noble and very loyal lordship and county.* Besides, the Biscayans are originally all noble, and considered as such throughout Spain: out of their province they are amenable either in civil or criminal cases only to the grand judge of Biscay, who holds his tribunal at Valladolid. This is one of the privileges of which Biscay, Alava, and Guipuzcoa, are most jealous.

Guipuzcoa enjoys the same privileges as the lordship of Biscay, except that, as frontier of the kingdom, it receives garrisons, and is defended by fortified towns; but otherwise, its commandant general has nothing to do with the civil administration, and he is bound to consult with the alcades on every thing relative to military affairs.

The country of Alava, in 1332, acknowledged the sovereignty of king Alphonso, and that monarch

narch secured to the inhabitants of the whole country their privileges, particularly that of not having new taxes imposed on them without their consent, and being governed according to the code of the laws of Calahorra, which they had adopted.

El Señorio de Biscaya is composed of a hundred republics at least: that is to say, the towns are governed, as much as possible, according to the code of Castile; but the boroughs and villages have their particular laws, which differ from one another. These republics united, are called Infanzonando, and each borough and village sends its deputy to the general assembly. In order to have the right of voting, or of being a deputy, it is necessary to be born a Biscayan, and proprietor of a landed estate to the value of 12,000 reals of vellon; or 250l. The king is represented by a corregidor, who communicates his demands.

The lordship of Biscay still presents in many places a singular, striking, and respectable picture of ancient manners, the affecting simplicity of which inspires a sentiment of veneration. The country is covered with detached houses, without any decoration, but commodious, each placed in the middle of the proprietor's manor, and near a river. Their proximity, and their connection, make them look like villages. Most of these houses and their dependencies are inhabited by persons, whose families have possessed them from time immemorial.

morial. They are always carefully transmitted from father to son; there is a kind of shame in selling the estates of one's ancestors. These proprietors are called *Eche-jaunes*, that is to say, lords of houses; divers districts, composed of a certain number of these houses, are called republics; the parish church is generally in the centre.

At certain distances villas of a superior order, also antique, appear among these modest habitations; they are all of a simple architecture, and most of them flanked with square towers. The families have likewise transmitted these regularly from father to son, for several ages. It would be a disgrace to sell them: their possessors, under the title of *Parientes mayores*, are, as it were, the elders of the district; they were formerly regarded as the chiefs and the judges; and they still preserve a marked distinction, and a real preponderance. The roads are often bordered with these detached houses, and are rendered the more agreeable by them: on that leading from Bilbao to Orduña, the greater number are situated, having the appearance of a town, formed by detached buildings, for the space of six leagues.

THE POLITICAL AND JURIDICAL DIVISION OF THE THREE CANTONS WHICH FORM THE PROVINCE OF BISCAY.

Guipuzcoa, is divided into Partidos, Unions, and Alcaldias, which are themselves formed of several

several communes, which send a single deputy to the assemblies of the province, and in which respect no one commune is superior to another. The assemblies of the province are held annually in eighteen towns prescribed by their *fueros*, (privileges), and sit for six days. There is a general assembly for electing four deputies general, who must reside, one at Saint Sebastian, another at Tolosa, a third at Azpeytia, and the fourth at Azcoytia. They have substitutes in case of illness or absence. The ordinary alcades are seventy four in number; they try causes in the first instance, and from them an appeal is made to the corregidor; who resides by turns at Tolosa, Saint Sebastian, Azpeytia, and Azcoytia, three years in each place; he is both civil and criminal judge, is at the head of the police, and presides likewise in general and particular assemblies.

Guipuzcoa was independent of the crown of Castile till the year 1200, when it subjected itself of its own accord to Alphonso VIII, which is proved by a declaration of that prince, dated at Saint Sebastian, in 1202, where he confirms the privileges which it enjoyed under the kings of Navarre: who, after the loss of this district, made some vain efforts to recover it; in 1321, the Guipuzcoians defeated the Navarrians, and their allies, the Gascons. The factions of Ognes and Gamboa excited disturbances in Guipuzcoa: but they were quelled, under Ferdinand and Isabella. The inhabitants

habitants of this country have always made their own laws. The first collection which they made of them was ratified by John I, in 1379, and confirmed by his successors. In 1585, a complete collection was made of them. They were printed in a folio volume at Tolosa, in 1696. The rights of the Guipuzcoians were formerly so extensive, that there are extant treaties concluded between them and foreigners, relative to war and peace. Their two principal privileges are; first, that of the voluntary tax or gratuitous gift, which amounts annually to 31,250l. second, of not being liable to the quintos, a levy of men, by which the crown of Spain claims one out of every five. It was on account of this levy that this district refused, in 1793, to raise the number required for the safety of the country, and which therefore became a prey to the enemy; the treasures were carried off, the churches pillaged, the fields laid waste; in short, the inhabitants were punished by being obliged to pay exorbitant contributions to the conquerors.

The country of Ognato, though situated in Guipuzcoa, is not included in the general administration of that canton. The *Encartaciones* form part of Biscay; they extend two leagues along the coast. The borough of Ognato includes within its jurisdiction two parochial churches, and thirteen barrios, or wards. This borough contains three hundred houses, and an university.

Biscay, properly so called, is divided into highlands,

lands, and lowlands, or *infanzonado.* The lowlands, which are the largest and richest portion, are divided into *meryndades*, and *ayuntamientos*, or municipalities, and each of these is subdivided into parishes, and the highlands, or mountains, into *encartaciones.* The code of Biscayan laws, or *los fueros,* was digested under Charles V. The government is representative; the principal affairs are decided in the general assembly, which is convoked every two years. They assemble to vote under the tree of Guernica; this tree belongs to the parish of del Luno, called Guernica. It is there also, that the powers of the members are verified, and the first sitting held. All business is formally introduced in the Spanish language, and afterwards discussed in the Basque tongue, which is the language of the country. In proceeding to elections, the people are divided into two parties (*vandos*), one of which is called Ognesime, and the other Gamboyne. Each vando chooses by ballot, a deputy, three regidors, a syndic, &c. The ancient oak of Guernica is a most venerable natural monument. Ferdinand and Isabella, in the year 1476, after hearing mass in the church of Santa Maria de la Antigua, repaired to this tree, under which they swore to the Biscayans to maintain their *fueros.* The judges who sit on trials of felony, likewise hold their court under this tree.

When the king enters upon a campaign, the Biscayans

cayans are bound to rise in a body, and march at their own expence to another tree, called Malato, upon the confines of the country; this tree once passed, the prince is obliged to pay them for two months, and for three, if they go beyond the mountains. In 1793, they furnished the Spanish army with 8000 men, and the enemy having forced the lines of Yzun, 16,000 more defended their own canton. They gave proofs of extraordinary courage in the defence of the villages of Ondarroa, Hermua, and Berriatua, which the enemy at last reduced to ashes.

Alava, until the reign of Alphonso VIII, was distinct from the crown of Castile, to which it subjected itself in 1200, but retaining a kind of independence, which the inhabitants renounced about the middle of the fourteenth century, still preserving a part of its ancient privileges. The general assembly of this canton meet twice a year, that is to say, at Vittoria, in the month of November, and in May at some other town, appointed by the canton. This assembly is composed of the deputy-general, who is hereditary president, the deputies, and alcades of the brotherhoods, the treasurer general, and two registers.

Road from the Frontiers of France, by Bayonne, to Saint Sebastian, Bilbao, and Orduña.

On leaving Bayonne, we follow, for three long leagues, a rough and neglected road, after which we

we arrive at Saint-Juan-de-Luz. We afterwards come to a small arm of the sea, over which we pass by a bridge, beyond which are the suburbs of Sibourre; and soon perceive the steeple of Orogne. Proceeding another league, we arrive at the banks of the Bidazoa, cross that river, and find ourselves in Guipuzcoa. At San-Juan-de-Luz, though still in France, every thing announces Spain; and when we are on the other side of the Bidazoa, France is no longer to be traced; we only observe some French habitations, while, by the language, and what, in haste, we can perceive of customs and habits, we might think ourselves far advanced in the country: without being able to find the true Spanish character here, we find really nothing that characterizes the French.

Road from Bidazoa to Saint Sebastian, Bilbao, and Orduña, 34½ leagues.

From Bidazoa to	
Irun, (a town or borough)	½ league.
Hernani, (a borough or village)	1
Renteria, (a town)	6
Saint Sebastian, (a seaport town)	
Bilbao, (a town)	21
Orduña, (a town)	6

Crossing the river Bidazoa, which separates France from Spain, we enter Guipuzcoa. In half an

an hour, we arrive at the little town of Irun, the first on this side of Spain ; it is very ill built, and its streets are crooked, and uneven ; it has nothing remarkable but its parish church, which is tolerably handsome. This town is about half a league from the wooden bridge, by which we passed the Bidazoa, and which is said to have been built at the expence of the two monarchies, which it separates. We now arrive at Hernani, a large village, or considerable borough, which is the second place in Spain on this road: it is situated in a cheerful valley, rendered fertile by a little river, which we often meet in travelling the road to Vittoria ; we pass it by a great number of tolerably handsome stone bridges. This valley is surrounded by mountains, which appear ready to fall upon this borough, and bury it under them. Many anchors are here made for the navy. On leaving Hernani, the road divides into two branches ; the one to the left, leads to Tolosa, Vergara, and Vittoria, on the road to Madrid ; this will be noticed hereafter ; the other to the right, leads to Saint Sebastian : it is a very fine road, made some years ago, under the direction, and at the expence of the particular government of the province, or canton of Guipuzcoa. It runs through a country in many places of an ungrateful soil, and at last over a cluster of mountains, on the summit of which we have a bird's eye view of Saint Sebastian. To the right, we leave the town of Fontarabia,

which

which we may see by going a little out of our way.

Fontarabia, in Spanish Fuenta Rabia, and in latin Fons Rapidus, formerly Ocaso, is a fortified town of Guipuzcoa, and one of the keys of Spain. It is situated in a small peninsula on the sea coast, and upon the left bank of the Bidazoa; it has the title of city. It is small, but well fortified, both by nature and art. It is protected on the land side by high mountains, by the Sierras of Jasquevel, and defended on the sea side, by a good fortress. It was unsuccessfully besieged by the French in 1638; it has a harbour, which would be a very good one, but for a material inconvenience: the tide, which is generally very high there, leaves it dry when it retires. Fontarabia is built in the form of an amphitheatre, upon a hill which faces the sea, and in the south angle of the Gulph of Gascony. It has a governor, a king's lieutenant, a major, an aide-major, and a garrison, more or less numerous.

The young country people of this part of Guipuzcoa are very lively and agreeable; they plat their hair, and ornament it with ribbons; their shoulders are covered with the plats; they put a small very light muslin veil upon their heads, which falls about their necks. They wear coral necklaces, and earrings either of gold or pearls. Their common dress is a jacket with tight sleeves.

If we wish to visit the Passage Port, we advance among

among the rocks, which border the sea, a fatiguing road, where we are not always safe from danger, and which it requires some courage to pursue for a league and a half; we then arrive at the town, which is only one street, built on the space lying between the bay and the mountains to the east. A castle commands the entrance of Passage Port; the immense bay is surrounded by high mountains, and communicates with the sea only by a small strait, between two rocks, and just broad enough to allow a single vessel to pass, and that is obliged to be towed out and in. This harbour was formerly the depôt of the company of the Caracas, which was afterwards united to that of the Philippines. If we wish to go from Passage Port to Saint Sebastian, nothing is more easy; and as we are obliged to wait for the high tide to go over the bay, we have leisure to remark, that except a narrow canal which crosses it, it is always dry during the low tide. It takes half an hour for boats to cross this bay, which is so inclosed, that we need fear neither wind nor storms; pretty Biscayan women, whose complexions are rather tanned, are the pilots and sailors in the passage boats. When we arrive at the western side of the bay, we find a place where horses are hired, and in half an hour we get to Saint Sebastian, by a wooden bridge, built over a small river, which bathes the walls of that town.

The road which leads from Irun to Saint Sebastian

bastian is seven leagues; formerly it was difficult and dangerous; we were obliged to climb up steep mountains, and often travel upon high and uneven rocks, on the brink of precipices; we afterwards crossed, or went by the side of large and thick forests, which covered the sides and tops of the mountains; at present the road is easy, fine, and safe, for which we are indebted to the generous attention of the inhabitants of Guipuzcoa. Renteria is on this road, a small town of little appearance, situated in the valley of Oyarzo, upon the banks of the river Bidazoa, a league from Saint Sebastian; the boats go up with the tide. Renteria was nothing more than a cluster of houses and detached farms, which were encompassed with walls in 1320: it was then called Villa Nueva d'Oyarzo, but it soon took its first name again. It has a parish church, a convent of monks, a convent of nuns, and manufactories of cast or crude iron.

We pass through this town, and before we come to Saint Sebastian, travel through a sandy, heavy soil. We do not see this town till the moment that we come to it; it is completely hidden by a sand hill.

Saint Sebastian *(Fanum Sancti Sebastiani)* is the most important town of the district of Guipuzcoa. It is but of middling strength, situated on the coast of ancient Cantabria, now Basque, between two arms of the sea, which form a peninsula

ninsula of it, and at the mouth of the little river Urumea, or Gurumera, which was the Menascum of the ancients: there is an eminence which serves it as a dike on the sea side. This town, flanked with bastions and half moons, appears defended by a castle or citadel of little importance, placed upon an almost circular and tolerably high mountain, which is bare, without trees, almost smooth, and ascended by a spiral road. Saint Sebastian has a small harbour inclosed by two moles, that leave a very confined space for the passage of ships, which are afterwards protected from the winds, on arriving at the bottom of an eminence of rocks which covers this harbour, where there is a large square tower; it holds at most five and twenty or thirty vessels. The town is very airy; it contains twenty streets, several of which are straight, long, and broad, and all paved with large smooth stones. There are from six hundred and fifty to seven hundred houses in it, and many of them are pleasant enough. It is the residence of the governor of the province, who had the title of captain-general, until the beginning of the present century. It has a governor, a king's lieutenant, a major, an aide-major, a small garrison, and a naval academy; two parishes, and a third in the suburbs, which are very populous; two convents of monks, three convents of nuns, and a hospital. There are in this town and its suburbs five manufactories of hides and leather, some tanning yards established in the

the faubourg Saint Martin, a manufactory of anchors for the royal navy in the faubourg of Santa Catalina, and rope-walks, where cables are made.

Saint Sebastian has always carried on a considerable trade; here the Philippine company was formed, with which that of the Caracas was afterwards united. Its harbour is very much frequented by English, Dutch, French, and other ships. It receives the produce of foreign industry, and returns in exchange, iron anchors, cables, leather, wool, and sometimes cotton. This port was the place from whence the company of the Caracas dispatched their ships, and where they landed the merchandize which they received on their return. It attracts a considerable population to the town, which is estimated at 13,000 inhabitants.

The port of Saint Sebastian, though free, is not what is called *abilitado.* This word means a privilege to send merchandize directly to America. We shall speak more particularly of this in the description of the canton of St. Andero.

The environs of Saint Sebastian are pleasant, though the soil is sandy; we enjoy at the same time a view of the sea and of the Pyrenees. Those who love the country, take pleasure in visiting the pleasant valley of Layola. We go to it through the gate of France, following a kind of promenade, which leads to a wooden bridge, where persons who are fond of it amuse themselves in fishing for salmon in the river which bathes the fortifications

of the town; this fish is found there in such abundance, that it is sold for three farthings a pound. As we proceed, we perceive on the left a convent of Franciscans, the whole appearance of which inspires veneration, seeming desirous of concealing itself under masses of foliage, formed by groups of trees. On that side, however, they have begun to form a public promenade parallel to the little road which leads to Passage Port. We travel along a loose soil, which is covered by the high tides: we afterwards ascend and descend, proceeding along a steep coast; the path is shaded by a high wood, and embellished with fragrant jessamines; after crossing another wooden bridge, we enter the valley of Layola. Bounded on one of its sides by hills covered with trees, it here has a gloomy aspect; but on the opposite side we behold the richest productions, displaying a scene of various colours, highly embellished by the rays of the setting sun. A river bounds this valley in a semicircular form, and waters a great number of fruit trees planted on its banks.

The climate of Guipuzcoa is tolerably mild and temperate, owing to the sea breeze which refreshes the atmosphere in summer, and softens it in winter; it is by this also that a continual verdure is preserved in this canton, particularly in the valleys. Yet the sky of Saint Sebastian is not very serene, it is often cloudy; the air is generally damp, and sometimes loaded with fogs. The provisions here

here are cheaper than in most of the other ports of Spain; there are even two tolerably good inns.

Travelling in a carriage by the great road to Bilbao, we are obliged to pass Mondragon, where the road, which leads to the capital of Biscay, branches off; we go on to Durango, a town sufficiently populous to hold the second rank in the republic of El Señorio, and which is four leagues south-east of Bilbao. But if we travel on horseback, we leave the road which leads to Castile at Bergera; we then take a cross-road, and after having ascended a mountain for two hours, by an abominable road, through a wood of oaks, we arrive at Elgetta. This borough is the frontier of Guipuzcoa, on the side of Biscay, the territory of which begins on the other side of the mountain upon which Elgetta is built. Before us, we see, at a distance, the little harbour of Descarga, and at the foot of the eminence, the town of Lorio, in the Biscayan territory. In descending the mountain, we enjoy a pleasant prospect, formed by white houses, covered with very red brick tiles, contrasting with the harvests, and fresh, green, and flowery meadows that adorn the plain, which displays a vigorous, active, and cheerful vegetation; and is surrounded by cultivated hills, on which in one part rise hillocks of granite, from the middle of which shoot lofty pyramids, embellishing the back-ground of the picture. Proceeding on a parallel with these hillocks, though at some distance from

them, we soon perceive a coldness in the air, which gradually decreases as we approach Durango. From this town to Bilbao, the road is through woods, the timber of which would be good for ship-building.

Bilbao is the capital of Biscay-proper, and we may say, the guardian of the *fueros*, or liberty of the districts. This town is small, but pleasant; it is situated on the Bay of Biscay, at the mouth of the river Ansa, which is navigable for boats, and which runs through it. The old harbour of the Amanes, or the Flaviobriga of the ancients, was situated here. It was called Belvao, that is to say, *a good ford*, whence by corruption is derived Bilbaum and Bilbao. In 1300, Diego Lopez de Haro built the present town; it is the richest and the most commercial in the lordship. It contains about twelve hundred houses; and as those of Saint Sebastian are in general very low, these are high, solidly built, and not devoid of elegance. Its population is upwards of 15,000 souls.

Bilbao has a corregidor, a minister of marine, an auditor of marine, a staff, a drawing-school, a naval academy, and several docks for building merchant vessels. There are four parishes, three convents of nuns, one chapel, and two asylums in it. The streets are smooth, paved with small square stones, kept in good repair, and with a studied cleanliness; the water is conducted from the river by several canals, which serve to wash and

and cool them, and which carry off the filth by drains. The roofs of the houses project considerably, which has not a pleasant effect, and which we must estimate only by their utility; they serve equally to shelter those who walk under them from the rain and from the sun. The shambles are in an edifice of the Tuscan order, which has an uncovered inclosure in the centre, where the air circulates freely.

Near the mouth of the Ansa, a considerable place has been dug, in which the water is kept by means of a magnificent dike, which extends a good way along a promenade, called the Arenal. This promenade is very handsome; it runs along the bank of the river, and is planted with oaks and lindens, bordered with warehouses, gardens, and houses ornamented with paintings. The prospect is agreeable, particularly in going up the river from its mouth; we might fancy that we saw an assemblage of beautiful theatrical decorations all the way.

The French, English, Dutch, Bremens, Hambourgians frequently come to this port; they bring the productions of their manufactories and colonies; and load in return with the wool which comes from Old Castile, anchors made in Guipuzcoa, some rigging, iron from the three cantons, and chesnuts, of which the country produces a great quantity. It is calculated that in time of peace, Bilbao receives annually 160,000 quintals of salt fish, and 6000 barrels of train oil.

There

There is a great deal of liberty enjoyed at Bilbao; industry and commerce have diffused a general welfare in this town; every thing is in abundance; the sheep which are brought from Old Castile are fattened with the Portugalette grass; the other meats are equally good, as is likewise the game.

The air of this town, without being unwholesome, is unpleasant from its great moisture; it rusts iron, attacks brass, dissolves salt, and renders linen and furniture damp; in spite of this, we hear of few diseases, and we find a number of old men. There are three inns, which are tolerably good.

Strangers are very well received at Bilbao, but they experience difficulties in fixing their residence there. Numerous obstacles prevent them from living there; the inhabitants, jealous of their rights and privileges, are disinclined to admit any but those who are born among them. They sometimes allow the freedom of the city, or naturalization; but they require so much formality, that the poor merchants are hardly ever able to comply with it. To procure it, it is necessary to prove, that the person is not descended either from a Moor, or a Jew; that he sprung from a noble family, or, at least, that he has never exercised a mean and mechanic art. Commissioners are sent to the birth-place of the person who proposes himself, to investigate his titles, and make inquiries respecting the candidate, and his connections.

All

All this is tedious and expensive; and yet without it, a stranger can neither have a house, establish a trade, nor exercise any profession or art: he can only do this under the name of a settled inhabitant.

Bilbao had two particular kinds of industry, which made a considerable return; the one consisted in an economical mode of grinding corn, which was very beneficial; particular circumstances have made them give this up: the other, in a number of tanning yards, the profit of which was still greater and more certain; but the prohibition of importing hides directly from America, without paying very heavy duties, has done them such considerable injury, that there are scarcely any remaining.

The road which leads from Bilbao to Orduña, and which is six leagues, is very pleasant. The songs of the birds and of the Biscayan labourers are intermingled. The road is often bordered by simple, handsome, cheerful, and well kept country houses; every thing is animated. We every where meet with detached houses, which yet appear to depend on a principal habitation, a picture of the first establishments of the family of the patriarchs, and which we may compare to that happy state of man, such as he is described in the golden age. Though dispersed, this continuity of houses appears an immense village, animated by the industry, activity, and gaiety of its inhabitants. The traveller, struck with the variety of the objects which

which surround him, experiences a sentiment of tranquillity, and arrives at Orduña without having perceived the length of the road.

Orduña, in Latin *Ordunia*, is a small inconsiderable town, situated to the south of Bilbao, in a pleasant valley, encompassed on all sides by steep and very high mountains. It has two parish churches, one of which has a collegiate chapter, a convent of monks, and a convent of nuns. There is nothing remarkable in it, although it is considered as the capital, or rather the chief place of the country, called the Four-Towns, and the residence of a vicar-general, and official of the bishop of Calahorra. The interior custom-house of Biscay is established here; but it only collects the duties upon merchandize imported into Castile; it regards as contraband all articles of manufacture, the use of which is prohibited in Spain.

Road from the frontiers of France, coming from Bayonne, to the frontiers of Old Castile, by Guipuzcoa, and Alava, 21½ leagues*.

The Bidazoa, a river	
We here enter Spain, and Guipuzcoa.	
Irun, (a small town)	½ league.
Hernani, (a small town)	1
Tolosa, (a town, the chief place)	5½

* Road from the frontiers of France to Burgos, Valladolid, and Madrid.

Alegria,

Alegria, (a small town) Villa-Franca, (a village) Villa Real, (a village) Ansuela, (a village) Vergara, (a town)	3 leagues.
We here enter Alava.	
Mondragon, (a village)	2
Salinas, Vittoria, (a town, the chief place)	5
Ariaza, (a river with a bridge) La Puebla, (a village) Armiñon, (a village)	4
The Frontiers of Old Castile	½

After crossing the Bidazoa, which, as has been said, separates France from Spain, we enter Guipuzcoa. In a mile and a half we pass through Irun, and afterwards Hernani. Here the road divides into two branches; that which is on the right leads to Saint Sebastian, the other is that to Tolosa, where we arrive after having travelled seven leagues from the bridge of the Bidazoa. On leaving Hernani, we pass for three leagues over the hills, which separate at Andoya, to shelter on the north and south a very narrow valley, but which is fertilized by the little river Oria. A perpetual variation of objects distracts the traveller; mulberry, walnut, and a number of all kinds of trees are grouped around the little insulated houses, the whiteness of which forms a pleasing constrast with the colour of the surrounding fields. Hills rising one above the other present an

an amphitheatre, where cultivation seems extended to the very summit of the forests; sometimes we discover a little village, near which is a magnificent building, that gives it a grand appearance: this is the parish church, a monument of the piety of the inhabitants. From time to time, we find the Oria running over rocks which seem destined to stop its course, and from which it escapes forming cascades, gliding gently afterwards through the plain, the fertility of which it increases, and where it turns several mills. At last, we behold it with pleasure meandering in the valley of Tolosa.

Tolosa, *Iturissa*, a small and handsome town, situated in a pleasant valley, upon the rivers Oria and Araxes, the latter of which we cross by a beautiful bridge, defended by a tower. This town was founded by a king of Castile, Alphonso the Wise, whose son, Sancho the Brave, completely peopled it in 1291. It is in the centre of Guipuzcoa, of which it is considered the capital; it is, next to Saint Sebastian, the most populous town in this canton; together with its suburbs, it contains about four thousand two hundred inhabitants. There is a parish church, a convent of monks, and a convent of nuns in it. There is a large market held here every Saturday. The streets are very well paved, and lighted at night. Its principal manufactures are nails, horse shoes, kitchen utensils of all kinds, as iron and tin pots and boilers; grates,

grates, stoves, saucepans, jacks, knives, and other articles; window grates, steel bed-frames, &c. &c. sabres and fire arms; skins, leather, and furs. Most of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture; the annual harvest is generally 5200 fanegas of wheat, 7300 of maize, 1400 of chesnuts &c. in every way they are very industrious. There is a good inn in the town.

On quitting Tolosa, we travel through beautiful, well kept, and productive fields. We pass successively through Alegria, a little inconsiderable town, where there are manufactories of guns and steel weapons, and where they make some instruments of agriculture, to Villa Franca and Villa Real; we afterwards ascend for a considerable time a mountain, the descent from which is steep; at the foot of it is the village of Ansuela: the road soon after divides into two new branches; we continue on that to the left, the other leads to Durango, on the road to Bilbao.

We can here see Vergara, a small town, the population of which is four thousand inhabitants. It is esteemed for the excellent schools which the patriotic society established there in 1765. They teach reading, writing, the latin grammar, the Spanish language, arithmetic, poetry, the belles-lettres, rhetoric, philosophy, some foreign languages, mathematics, natural philosophy, natural history, domestic chemistry, drawing, music, and dancing. This town is the place of residence of a vicar-

a vicar-general and official of the bishop of Calahorra.

Here we leave Guipuzcoa, and enter the canton of Alava. The great number of habitations, whether villages, or country houses, which almost touch one another, make the road from Vergara to Vittoria resemble a long street. The beauty of this grand road, the charming view of the Zadorra, which meanders in the valley, and the windings of which are continually presenting themselves to the attention of the traveller, form a charming prospect. But it is rendered still more delightful, by the appearance of easy circumstances in the villagers, and by meeting a great degree of cleanliness in the inns. We proceed to the village of Mondragon, arrive at the foot of the mountain of Salinas, toil up it, come to the town of the same name, ascend again for some time and then descend. The mountains gradually appear lower; they become less frequent, and more distant; we get beyond them, and perceive Vittoria, where we arrive in a short time.

Vittoria, in latin *Victoria*. This town is considered as the capital of Alava. It is situated partly upon the declivity of a hill, and partly at the end of a beautiful well cultivated valley, where there are a number of villages, and where we see the mountains in perspective. It was founded by Don Sancho, king of Navarre, and from him received the title and prerogatives of a city.

Situation,

Situation, Extent. It is divided into the new town and old town; the latter is much less inhabited than the former; it is surrounded by a double row of walls, one of which is of greater antiquity than the other. It is in general close and ill built, yet there are some tolerably broad streets, ornamented with trees, and watered by cool and clear streams. There is a large and beautiful square, two hundred and twenty feet every way, which opens into four streets, one on every side: in the middle is a fountain, and piazzas run round it, having seventy six arcades. The houses in it are almost all uniform; but the Hotel-de-Ville, and two convents, which are situated there, have distinct and different fronts.

Population. This is the most populous and most considerable town in Alava; it is said to contain six thousand five hundred inhabitants, who occupy upwards of one thousand houses; there are about two thousand in the suburbs. It is pretended that in the commencement of the fourteenth century, in the reign of John II, the population of it had decreased, though then 18,000 persons.

Clergy. Vittoria has a collegiate chapter, four parishes, three monasteries of monks, and three nunneries, five chapels, and an asylum. The chapter is composed of five dignitaries, nine canons, and nine sub-prebendaries. The civil government is composed of an alcade, a substitute, two municipal regidors, ten town and two village deputies, one syndic, two deputies of the community, one Alguazil mayor, two alcades of the Hermandad, and a register.

Public Edifices. Among the public edifices the Royal Asylum deserves attention; the architecture is tolerably good, and the interior well distributed. A hundred and fifty persons are supported here. The boarders may go out and in whenever they like in the day time; and the others when they have done their work, which is not very hard. Poor children are here taught to read, write, and say their catechism. Most of the churches are Gothic, some of them handsome enough. That of the barefoot Carmelites is altogether

gether one of the most regular, but that of the Dominicans is full of tasteless, it may even be said, barbarous ornaments, which disfigure the walls and altars: in the noviciate chapel of the same order, there are three excellent pictures by L'Espagnolet: a St. Peter, a St. Paul, and a crucifixion.

Promenades. There are some handsome well frequented walks at Vittoria. The people are industrious and active, and there is every where an air of animation, cheerfulness, and content, because industry and labour are every where sure of employment. This town has some customs peculiar to itself: the three festivals celebrated annually at fixed periods, one for boys, another for girls, and a third for husbands, are simple and affecting; they owe their institution to the purity of ancient manners: to commemorate them is to remount to their source, and to contribute to the desire of maintaining those manners.

Manufactures. The commerce here consists in rough and wrought iron, and colonial commodities: Vittoria is even an entrepôt for great part of Navarre and Old Castile, for wool, cloths, silks, linens, straw-bottomed chairs, kitchen furniture, potter's ware, shoes, hats, linen for the table, &c. &c. Here they manufacture sword blades, and a great part of the trade in iron commodities is carried on through the ports of St. Sebastian and Bilbao.

Celebrated Men. Vittoria was the birth place of J. B. Larrea, a famous lawyer of the 17th century; and of Diego Esquivel de Alava, who died about the year 1562, and was the author of a work entitled: *De Conciliis universalibus ac de iis quæ ad Religionis et Reipublicæ Christianæ Reformationem instituenda videntur.* This book, published in folio at Granada in 1582, is full of excellent views of reformation, but which, though generally approved, have been found impracticable.

On leaving the town, we cross the river Arrienza over a stone bridge, and enter a superb plain of four leagues in length, and two and a half in breadth;

breadth; it is cheerful, well cultivated, extremely fertile, full of trees, and very populous. There are three hundred villages and hamlets in it. We travel through it in its length, pass through the little towns or villages of La Puebla and Armiñon, and frequently ride by the river side, which is planted with trees. Coming to a little hill, we go over it, and enter upon a very straight, handsome road, raised like a causeway; it runs a league to Miranda de Ebro, in the middle of which there is a marble column, with an inscription, telling the limits of Alava and Old Castile. This fine road was made at the expence of the whole province; that is to say, of Biscay, Alava, and Guipuzcoa: from the nature of the ground and the mountains, many were the difficulties to be overcome in the prosecution of the work. The ascents and descents have been rendered easier, the precipices avoided, and the road skilfully carried round the steep ridges: in short, it is a superb road, enlivened with villages, houses, trees, and husbandmen occupied on a soil which rewards their labour.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT RELATIVE TO BISCAY.

Population of the three cantons of Biscay. The population of the three cantons of Biscay, Guipuzcoa, and Alava, is not very considerable; yet, if we consider the smallness of their extent and the multitude of mountains spread over them, we shall find the number of inhabitants by no means low. According to the enumeration made, by command of the king,

king, in 1787 and 1788, the population appeared to be as follows:

310,758 Inhabitants . . .	116,042 in Biscay-proper. 74,000 in Alava. 120,76 in Guipuzcoa.

Among which are reckoned,

853 Parish Priests . .	271 in Biscay-proper. 455 in Alava. 127 in Guipuzcoa.
1,231 Secular Priests . .	339 in Biscay-proper. 379 in Guipuzcoa. 513 in Alava.
902 Monks	348 in Biscay-proper. 238 in Alava. 316 in Guipuzcoa.
1,141 Nuns	400 in Biscay-proper. 218 in Alava. 523 in Guipuzcoa.
116,923 Nobles	54,250 in Biscay-proper. 12,161 in Alava. 50,512 in Guipuzcoa.
142 Advocates . . .	49 in Biscay-proper. 37 in Alava. 56 in Guipuzcoa.
329 Writers	140 in Biscay-proper. 70 in Alava. 119 in Guipuzcoa.
455 Students	50 in Biscay-proper. 350 in Alava. 55 in Guipuzcoa.
8,713 Servants	1,261 in Biscay-proper. 2,652 in Alava. 4,800 in Guipuzcoa.

It is however, to be observed, that according to the enumeration made in 1800, the population had decreased upon the whole about 20,000 persons, and that in this statement is included the population of the Four-Towns, of the county of Ognato, and of St. Andero.

Agriculture

Agriculture of the three cantons: Biscay, Alava, and Guipuzcoa. Agriculture is generally well understood, and in a high state of improvement in the three cantons of Biscay, where due regard is had to the disposition and quality of the land. This is a country of mountains, where plains are few in number, and of small extent; where the resources of the husbandman are confined to valleys, hills, and hillocks, but, at the same time, where those valleys are very fertile and well taken care of, and where the very mountains are turned to advantage, and made to contribute to the comfort, ease, and opulence of the inhabitants.

The lands of Biscay-proper are in general so rank, that, without a culture extremely difficult and toilsome, they would produce nothing but woods, brambles, and weeds: to reduce the clayey quality of them, the husbandmen use marl as compost, and it is only by sparing neither labour nor expence that they make them productive. They have a peculiar mode of turning up the earth, which is very laborious. The Biscayans make use of an implement, which they call *laya*; it consists of two iron prongs, from fifteen to sixteen inches long, and about six inches asunder, fixed to a straight stick, with a handle at top to bear on. It requires at least two men to handle it, and sometimes three or four, according to the resistance of the ground. The labourers all place themselves in a line; they stick the prongs into the ground, leaning on the handle, to force them in, and then move the laya about every way till they separate a large clod. Pressing down the stick to raise the implement horizontally, they bring up the clod, which they throw behind them, turning it upside down. In this way they proceed in straight lines over all the ground they mean to sow. A man follows the furrow after the layamen, breaking the clods with a mattock, while another cuts the thick deep roots: the ground is left in this state till frosty weather, by which they are fully subdued. In spring the land is harrowed to break it into finer pieces and make it even; it is then turned again by means of a cylinder, with

teeth placed in triangles; the larger masses are broken with a wooden mallet. After this, wide, shallow holes are dug with hoes, in a straight line, two feet asunder; some seeds of maize, pompion, kidney beans, or pease, are thrown into each, and the holes are filled with dung, and covered with earth. Some days after the vegetation begins to show itself above ground the field is every where, round the new plants, dug with the spade, and when the flowers and heads appear, the highest shoots are cut off and dried for the oxen, being an excellent food for them, and one they are very fond of. At the end of September, or beginning of October, as the maize ripens, it is cut down close to the earth, and wheat is immediately sown, without any other preparation than turning the land with the plough. In winter another operation is performed, called *sallar*; which is a kind of light work, done with a sort of long narrow hoe, and consists in breaking the caked surface of the ground; this work is repeated in the month of May or June, at which time the weeds, that grow in great abundance, are taken out. The harvest is got in at the end of August, and cattle are then turned upon the stubble land to feed.

Light soils are suffered to lie fallow for a twelvemonth; but richer ones, or such as are dunged, are tilled every year; three months after the corn is cut they are again put into cultivation. There are some very fine lands in which the smaller grains are not sown, but wheat only.

The mode of tillage varies more or less in the different parts of Alava and Guipuzcoa. In the latter canton the country is so mountainous that the people are under the necessity of taking very steep lands into cultivation: they likewise use the laya, and they manure with lime, dung, sea-sand, and substances left dry by the tides: some parts of Guipuzcoa yield marl, with which the soil is rendered extremely fertile.

Notwithstanding the industry and constant care of the husbandmen, Biscay, and Guipuzcoa do not, by a great deal, produce

produce corn enough for their own consumption; they generally obtain it from Old Castile, and not unfrequently import it from foreign countries. They take a considerable quantity likewise from Alava, where it is usually abundant enough.

The wheat harvest in Guipuzcoa, one year with another, is only 250,000 fanegas, and the canton consumes about 400,000. The harvest next in importance to that of wheat, is that of maize, after which barley, beans, pease, and other vegetables. As grapes have constantly degenerated here they have been given up. There are orchards which yield a very good cyder. According to the returns of the forests, and of the woods, public and private, the number of trees twenty years ago, appeared to be as follows:

Oaks, old, middle aged, and young . . .	5,322,665
Oaks, *glans edulis*	23,874
Beech of all ages	4,771,502
Chesnuts	894,683
Ash	51,694
Walnut	22,710
Poplars, Elms, Lotes	1,207

The income arising from land, does not amount in money to more than two per cent, exclusive of the proprietor's charges.

Biscay-proper, or the canton of Biscay, abounds in vineyards; it has some excellent grapes, which make a very good muscadine wine. The proprietors mix indifferently six or seven kinds of vine, which grow to the height of four feet: they sometimes raise lofty treillis, which bordering the roads, meet across overhead. The grapes are generally small; the black have a certain roughness; the white are of a smaller size, thin-skinned, and tartish. All these grapes are mixed together to make wine, which is called chacoli. They gather the grapes too soon, green and ripe together, and mix indifferently those that are spoiled with the good; the juice ferments but little, and

produces a rough, sour, disagreeable liquor, that has no body. If it were made with proper care, and suffered to undergo a complete fermentation, it would not be so tart, and might even be made to sparkle like champagne. This has been proved by experience: when the grapes used are all fully ripe, and a proper fermentation kept up; in short, when made a little more according to art, it is stronger and of a better flavour. It is said that the laws of the country contribute to this deterioration of the wine. It is made the drink of the cantons; the exportation of it is prohibited, as is likewise the sale of any other wine in the public houses till that is entirely done, and the price of it is fixed by the police. It follows, that the proprietor is sure to sell his wine, let it be ever so bad, and of course the quality of it is of little importance to him; the quantity therefore is all he cares for. All that is made, however, is not sufficient for more than the consumption of four months in the year, after which the people drink the wine of Rioxa or Rioja, a district of Old Castile, which furnishes yearly about 200,000 cantaros. Excellent cyder is likewise made here, but not so much of it as formerly. Biscay abounds in the finest fruits; besides its apples, which are very good, it has a great quantity of cherries, pears in plenty, such as burrels, burgamots, bonchretiens, and doyens, a great many walnuts, figs, currants, and wood strawberries: it sends chesnuts into Germany by Hamburgh. Its nectarines are very fine; the best are at Godejuele.

The Biscayans begin to cultivate flax and hemp, which have been too much neglected.

The mountains of Biscay are most beautiful and picturesque. They are full of trees, and planted with underwood, except in the parts cultivated, and those that are too high. Many of the trees and shrubs on them grow spontaneously, others are produced by the industry of the Biscayans: the former are the hardy oaks, large strawberry trees, called borto, and gooseberry bushes; the latter are white oaks, under-

underwood, engrafted chesnuts, and apple trees of different kinds, in abundance. The chesnuts are principally on the sloping sides of the mountains and dells; the Durango apples are esteemed the best. Thickets of lime trees, and the myrtle-leafed heath appear where there is not wood, and where the soil has some depth, and the small heath on the heights, where the soil has less bottom. Among these mountains Gorveya is most remarkable: it is very lofty; we ascend for five hours before we get to the top, whence we see it stretching along the coast, and spreading out into a great plain of beautiful and excellent pastures, where the flocks of Biscay and Alava are sent in the summer. This mountain is the only spot hitherto known in Spain, where the gooseberry tree or black thorn is found, the leaves of which smell of pepper: it is what the French call cassis.

The mountains of Guipuzcoa are not less interesting than those of Biscay-proper: they are equally beautiful and well wooded, have the same productions, and in addition walnut trees, and the common nut trees in abundance, with a great variety of fruit and cyder apples. The land every where else is cultivated, and produces pulse, maize, turnips, flax, &c. The cultivation of trees is very well understood in all these countries. In Guipuzcoa they lop the hardest oaks, as they do the mulberry trees in Valencia, and the trees produce in consequence more branches fit for charring; the lopping takes place every eight or ten years.

The mountains of Alava and Guipuzcoa were formerly covered with thick and almost impenetrable woods, but they have been almost entirely stripped of them. This is principally owing to the forges, which are so numerous, and consume such a quantity of wood, that it will in time become very scarce.

Though the agriculture of the province be in general in a high state of perfection, there are some places where it languishes. It is scarcely attended to for a considerable way round St. Andero, where the lands are neglected, and in many parte

parts left waste, and where there is little industry among the people, who are continually emigrating.

In Alava, and especially in the territory of Vittoria, agriculture is in a most flourishing state; but there is a coolness in the climate that prevents the cultivation of fruits, which require a certain degree of heat to ripen. In short, there is a progressive coldness in the atmosphere injurious to some particular productions, so that, from day to day, they are not to be depended upon.

Manufactures. There are a great many iron mines in the three cantons of Biscay, and of course their principal manufactures are of that metal. They reckon twelve martinets, or iron-mills, and one hundred and seventy one forges: of the latter there are fifteen in Guipuzcoa, one hundred and forty one in Biscay, and fifteen in the lower part of Alava, in the district of St. Andero. The whole may furnish about 124,000 quintals of iron.

They make anchors in the districts of Orrio and Andouin, in the parish of Begona, near Userbii; at Zubietta, Tolosa, Sarte, Hernani, Villabona, Arrazubia, Pugolluga, St. Sebastian, and Ampuero; at the last place they work for the king.

They make cannon, balls, and bombs, at Lierganes and Cabada, for the king.

There is a manufactory of cast iron at Penteria. Iron ware, locks, and little iron articles are made at Vergara, Aspeitia, and Helgoivar. There are several manufactories of iron plate and steel weapons at Tolosa. Fire arms are made at Placencia, Heybor, and Helgoivar, employing seven hundred and sixty five workmen, and copper boilers at Tolosa, Andouin, and especially at Balmaseda, where there are fourteen manufactories, one of which is for sheets of copper for sheathing ships.

There are manufactories of several other kinds in Biscay: one of wool at Escaray, where fine and second cloths are made; this belongs to the gremios (corporations) at Madrid: one of earthen ware, one for refining sugar, and four breweries

breweries at St. Andero. They make a great quantity of rigging for ships at St. Sebastian. Course linens are made by private weavers, chiefly at Arrazubia and Ognata. The manufactories for skins, leathers, and furs are very numerous: there is one at Marzon, one at Campuzano, two at Castrourdiales, four in the districts of San-Pedro-Deusto, San-Vicente-de Abando, Ornadia, and Anza, three in that of Arrigoriaga, four in that of Begoña, one at Salvatierra, and five in the environs of St. Sebastian. There are three magnificent rope-houses, one at Zorroza belonging to the king, another in the same jurisdiction belonging to private persons, and the third near the promenade of Bilbao, called Campo-Volantin.

Commerce. The only productions of the earth which the province of Biscay has to export are iron and chesnuts. It likewise sends abroad a small quantity of wool and some of its manufactures, such as anchors, fire arms, copper cauldrons, skins, leathers, furs, some woollens, and a little cloth. Its importation is considerable. It takes from the adjacent provinces a half of its cattle, two-thirds of the wine it consumes, and almost half the corn it wants. It also imports train oil, most of the linens used, a great quantity of cloths, silks, millinery, hardware, and jewellery. Its chief trading ports are St. Andero, Bilbao, Passage Port, and St. Sebastian. The English, Dutch, and French carry thither the productions of their own country and of their colonies, and likewise their manufactures, and receive in exchange iron, anchors and wool. The Hamburgh ships take in a great quantity of chesnuts. The Biscayans themselves are carriers to a considerable extent; they supply the coasts of the Mediterranean with foreign merchandize, and carry on a direct trade with several ports of England, Holland, and France. By this means they turn 250,000 piasters, which go a good way towards covering the balance in trade against them. Iron is an important object to Biscay, and a great deal of it is exported; yet, every thing considered, the profit to the proprietors of the forges is not very

very considerable. According to a calculation which appears accurate, each forge, however well worked, does not bring above 500 ducats, or 57l. 5s. 10d. into the proprietor's pocket annually: there are some that, all expences paid, scarcely return 300 ducats, or 34l. 8s. sterling.

The iron mine of Somorostro, in Biscay proper, but in the territory of the Encartaciones seems inexhaustible, and is open to every body; any one may search in it and work it as he thinks proper; each takes away what quantity he pleases, sells it as he pleases, and sends it wherever he can make the most of it. It is said that, one year with another, 800,000 quintals of mineral are taken out.

Biscay is prohibited a free trade with Spanish America; it might, however, obtain it, if it chose to admit custom-houses, and submit to pay duties like the ports in the other provinces of Spain; but it is so attached to its privileges, that it prefers suffering that privation.

In 1728, Philip V, established a commercial company at St. Sebastian, by the names of Caracas and Guipuzcoa: they had done infinite service, by procuring for Spain an important branch of trade, which was in the hands of the Dutch: instead of receiving as formerly from foreigners the cocoa of her own colonies, she supplied all Europe with it, and the price of it fell two-thirds. This company, however, in consequence of mal-administration, and a loss of 1,500,000 piasters, which it sustained at the commencement of the war between England and America, sunk and was suppressed. However, a trade with the province of Caracas is continued by private merchants from the port of St. Sebastian, and the cocoa, tobacco, and leather which are thence imported, form no inconsiderable branch of trade with the interior and the other ports of Spain, and a still more important one with foreign countries. Maritime connections are the more easily kept up throughout Biscay, from there being so many ports in its bay, and in the Gulph of Gascony. Most of them are small,

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it is true, and can only admit large boats; but there are some of sufficient consequence. The principal are those of Laredo, in the country of the Four-Towns, Bilbao, St. Andero, Lequeitio in Biscay-proper, St. Sebastian, Motrico, Los Passages, Fontarabia, and Deva, in Guipuzcoa.

The harbour of Laredo is large and handsome, yet it carries on no commerce: that of Bilbao is on the river Ansa, and of great resort: that of Lequeitio is small and can admit only small vessels: that of St. Sebastian is protected by the fortifications of the town, and a fort on the summit of the mountain of Santa-Cruz, the particulars of which have been described: the harbour of Motrico is dangerous on account of a rock called Trico, at its entrance, and which the tide conceals as it flows, and discovers as it ebbs.

The harbour of Los Passages is protected by two forts, one on each side; it has a dock for building ships of considerable burden: that of Fontarabia is of use only to small ships, and is dry at low water: lastly, the harbour of Deva is on the river of the same name, and is not very safe, on account of a bar at the mouth of it.

Roads and Inns. The roads of Biscay were formerly impassable; they were crooked, narrow, sometimes not traced out, generally on rock or marble, and lying along precipices on the sides or tops of steep mountains, which the passenger was to climb over as well as he could, being constantly exposed to danger: in many places it was with difficulty a mule could pass. The respective governments of these cantons turned their attention to so important an object, and have each at its own expence opened most beautiful roads, which have already been mentioned. With respect to inns, the *posadas* and *ventas*, whether standing alone or in the country boroughs and villages of the three cantons, are much the same as in the greater part of Spain; they are uncomfortable, and sometimes without any thing to eat. In the better sort of towns there are tolerable inns: those of Bilbao are the

the best. On the road from the frontiers of France to Madrid, through Guipuzcoa and Alava, there are every where very passable ones.

Natural History. As we have already said, there are a great many iron mines in the mountains of the three cantons of the province, particularly in those of Guipuzcoa and Biscay-proper. Almost all of them run in beds, masses, or veins. The principal are a league from Mondragon, and near Hernani in Guipuzcoa, in the neighbourhood of Bilbao, and at Somorostro in Biscay. The mine of Mondragon is of glazed iron, called by the miners frozen iron. That of Somorostro is a continued bed, from three to ten feet thick, under a stratum of whitish calcareous rocks, the thickness of which varies from two to six feet. It contains neither sulphur nor acids. The iron of it melts easily, and is one of the most malleable in Europe. Among some of those in the environs of Bilbao iron is found on the surface of the ground. An immense hill, about half a mile from that town, is an enormous mass of iron-ore charged with vitriolic acid. A great rock opposite this hill, and on the other side of the river, is of the same nature; it yields a great quantity of clear yellow vitriol. Most of these mines are full of hæmatites or blood stones, which are infixed in the cavities of the veins; they are of various figures and sizes. Some are hollow, yellow, or red within, and contain little crystals; their grains or beads inside have the form of stars when broken.

There is a copper-mine near Salvatierra in Alava, and fossil shells near Salinas in Guipuzcoa; these are found on a mountain at the end of a plain; they are in a kind of blue marble, veined with spar and pyrites within. There is another kind of marble veined with spar at Oyarzun in Guipuzcoa. In the neighbourhood of the village of Agnana they have a spring of salt water, from which salt is extracted by boiling and evaporation: the salt pits formed by it are productive; 60,000 fanegas of salt are procured from them every year

year, and ten times as much might be made without any fear of exhausting the water, which comes from a salt lake to the south of the village.

The three cantons of Biscay contain many mineral springs, some cold and others warm.

The cold mineral waters of Alava are situated as follows: near the Venta of Bombil-ach in the jurisdiction of Aramayona; at Villareal, near the mill of Golco-Erroto, two leagues from Aramayona; and at Urribari, a hamlet, half a league from the same village: those of Biscay-proper are in the territory of Berriatua, a hamlet, three miles from Puebla De Aulestia; at Thelleria three quarters of a mile from the same place; at Merindade d'Arratia, at the Barrio De Mendioldua of the hamlet of Artenga, near the little town of Lequeitia: those of Guipuzcoa are near Vergara. The waters of Villareal, Arribari, Berriatua, Lequeitia, Arratia, Arteaga, and Puebla De Aulestia, are said to be chalybeate.

The hot springs of Alava are at Ceanuti, Urribari, Berriatua, and in the neighbourhood of Armentia: those of Guipuzcoa are near Mondragon, between Essorinza and Arechavaleta; near Ascoytia, and near Atacen. They are all said to be sulphureous. There are baths at Ceanuti. None of these waters have ever been analysed, none are well known, nor are they celebrated or much frequented.

Between Bilbao and Orduña, and near the village of Llodio, there is a natural well, of a rectangular form, twelve feet by four and a half; one of the sides of it is hard rock, and the three others are clay mixed with pebbles; its depth is unknown. When the tide rises on the coast, which is about seven leagues off, the water in the well likewise rises progressively till it is nearly two feet above its usual level, and decreases in proportion as the tide ebbs. Besides its periodical rise, it has a sudden and a much higher one in the time of a tempest. The water is cold and brackish in its ordinary state, and becomes very muddy when high; at which time, though it crosses the road in a stream, it is found to be hot and soapy.

soapy. Many people consider this effect, so naturally resulting from subterraneous channels, as a great phenomenon.

State of the Arts and Sciences. There is no proper establishment in the three cantons of Biscay to disseminate the arts and sciences; there are classes where the elements of the latin language are taught, and some schools in the convents for the purpose of instructing the monks of the different orders in philosophy and theology, and where some of the laity are likewise admitted. A patriotic school for the education of youth has been founded at Vergara, in Guipuzcoa, at the expence of a society of encouragement established in 1755: it includes various branches of education. This society has consolidated the establishment by prudent and well digested regulations, the utility of which deserves to be more particularly noticed.

Every seven pupils have a servant, to attend upon and take care of them. There are sixteen masters by whom they are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, the latin and Castilian languages, the belles-lettres, rhetoric, geography, the mathematics, natural philosophy, natural history, chemistry, the French and English languages, drawing, music, and dancing. All these masters are at the expence of the society. The establishment is under the direction of commissioners who are changed every four months, and one of whom always resides in the college. The pupils undergo a public and solemn examination every four months, in the presence of the commissioners. There is a distribution of prizes, that is to say, of exterior marks of distinction proper to excite emulation; and every year, in the month of September, there is a general public examination of all the pupils, in the presence of the society.

Public schools for drawing have lately been established at Vittoria, Bilbao, and St. Andero, and naval schools at Bilbao, Saint Sebastian, and St. Andero.

Biscay-proper and Alava gave birth to four men who have distinguished themselves by their genius. We have already had

had occasion to mention them in the description of those cantons.

Character, Manners, Customs, Dress, and Language. There is an opinion pretty generally received, that the Biscayans and Irish sprang from one origin. Some historians assert that about two hundred years before the christian era, a colony of Biscayans sailed to Hibernia, landed, took possession of it, and established themselves there. Yet there is a tradition of long standing in Scotland, and generally credited at present in England, that the Irish are descended from the Caledonians. It is easy to reconcile the two opinions. The Caledonians may have subjected or peopled Ireland in very remote times, and the Biscayans may have established themselves there at a later period.

The Biscayans consider themselves as the descendants of the ancient Cantabri, who were a rustic people, high spirited, brave, intrepid, passionately fond of independence, who would sacrifice their lives, the lives of their wives and of their children, to their love of liberty; who resisted for a length of time the forces of the republic of Rome, who defeated its armies, who were subjugated without being subdued; in short, who were the last people of Spain that yielded to its different conquerors.

The Cantabri are described in history as an active and robust people, having a ferocious temper, and extraordinary customs; unacquainted with money, endowing the women whom they married, very constant and firm, resisting obstacles, facing every kind of danger, and easily supporting fatigue and labour.

The modern Biscayans are represented as still preserving strongly marked traces of the character of their ancestors, but considerably softened by civilization. They are equally robust and strong, brave and active. Very light in running, they climb the mountains with the greatest facility. They are in the main, high minded, proud, and independent; they

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are said to be very self-conceited, obstinate, easily made angry, very irritable and impatient.

These defects are compensated by several good qualities: they are in general laborious, industrious, active, ingenious, studious, faithful to their word, humane, hospitable, noble in their proceedings, gay, lively, and sociable.

The inhabitants of Alava in general devote themselves to agriculture; those of Biscay and Guipuzcoa are as much merchants as farmers; they are considered as the best sailors in Spain. We have already noticed their expedition to Ireland in remote times. It is said, that with a fleet composed of boats made of the trunks of trees, hollowed and covered with skins, they then conquered that country: which is not very credible. After that period, they carried their commerce into very distant countries; at the end of the fourteenth century, they had factories, and a consul at Azoff, at the mouth of the Tanaïs, on the confines of Europe and Asia.

The inhabitants of the province of Biscay are generally of the common stature; they have a fresh colour, an animated, lively, and cheerful face, and an open countenance. They live to a good old age, to which the tranquil and healthy life they lead a great deal contributes. Their domestic happiness too is founded upon a solid basis, the social virtues; the women appear to be good, faithful, and attentive to their domestic concerns; the children obedient, and respectful. Their ideas rarely extend beyond the narrow circle of their duties, as their sight extends no farther than the enclosure of their mountains: they are perhaps right in not attempting to pass either the one or the other.

The Biscayans are not reputed to have the sobriety of the Spaniards in general; it is said of them, that they consume the produce of their wine in buying foreign wines; they eat and drink a great deal, but are seldom intoxicated. The idea of a nobility descending to all the natives of Biscay, has a striking influence

influence on the character of the people of the three cantons; it preserves in their houses a principle of dignity, which, even in the lowest offices, gives them a noble mien, and an elevation of soul.

The wives of the ancient Cantabri were as courageous as their husbands; they did not carry arms, or fight, but they attended on them in battle, supported their courage, and provoked their vengeance. Animated by a heroic pride, they resolved to be free, and spurned every idea to the contrary, preferring death to servitude. They sacrificed all that was dear to them to their independence. Carrying always a dagger about them, they were often seen, during the wars of the Romans against the Cantabri, to plunge it in the breasts of the children whom they suckled, at the moment they were about to fall into the power of their enemies, preferring the grief of losing them, to that of seeing them in slavery.

The Biscayan women are still high minded, courageous, and determined, and would perhaps display the same energy, if there were occasion for it. Their features are in general regular, and their complexion fresh, brown, yet ruddy, bespeaks vigour, and health: a bold countenance, a lively eye, a confident look, and a certain haughty air, mark in them the sentiment of independence, which has reigned in this province.

The Cantabrian women used to carry the heaviest burthens; they cultivated the lands, ploughed the fields, and did every kind of work; they got up soon after their lying-in, and nursed their husbands, who went to bed in their stead, a custom which was likewise common among the inhabitants of Navarre, and for which it is impossible to give any reason.

The Biscayan females of the present day, have not degenerated. They work in the field as well as the men, and more diligently: at the sea-ports they are more employed than the men; they manage the boats, and likewise act as porters. Bilbao particularly is the place to judge of them. Without shoes or stockings, with a short petticoat, their arms naked

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to the shoulders, and displaying vigorous muscles, they are not dismayed with the heaviest burdens; it often requires the assistance of two stout men to help up the load, and, while the stranger is terrified to look on, they run off with it, as if it were nothing. After working in this manner all day, they show no signs of fatigue at night; they often return home, several of them together holding hands, dancing to a tambourine. They are sometimes seen working on the sides of mountains, climbing rapidly over steep rocks, running along them, and coming down with incredible boldness.

The ancient Cantabrian females had masculine countenances; they wore yellow, or red head-dresses, turned in the shape of a turban, which continued the mode in Biscay to the sixteenth century. The modern Biscayan women have very fine hair, which they plait and dress with coloured ribbons, and in general they consider the length of their plaits as their best ornaments. The dress of the lower class of women, in town or country, consists of a *bayeta*, a calamanco petticoat, with different coloured stripes, and a kind of corset, or close jacket: on their feet they wear leather sandals, which they call *abarcas*. The men wear linen, or white cloth breeches, a cloth cap, the shape of which differs in every village, a kind of waistcoat, red, short, and open, and a little cloth cloak; they likewise wear the *abarcas*. Married women wear on their head a linen, or muslin handkerchief made up, which they tie at top, and let the ends fall down behind.

The inhabitants of the towns, dress as in the other parts of Spain, fashion and colour being left to the taste of each. On ceremonious occasions, a black coat in the French fashion is worn, with silk stockings, and a cocked hat.

There is a gaiety reigning from one extremity of the three cantons of Biscay to the other, but the inhabitants have no amusement peculiar to themselves. The Guipuzcoans prefer sports which require skill and vigour: tennis is one of their favourite exercises, in which the women excel, and rival the most skilful of the other sex. They are passionately fond of seeing

seeing the young bulls fight, and no village ever neglects to celebrate the festival of its patron by *novillos*, to which the inhabitants of the neighbouring places flock. The Guipuzcoans are likewise very fond of dancing; they have a dance peculiar to themselves, called *zorcicos*. The movements and steps are very lively, hurried, vigorous, and nimble, but devoid of attitude. It is danced to the pipe and tabour.

Music, and the appearance of gaiety likewise accompany the funeral of children. When these die before the age of reason, they are carried uncovered to the burial place, dressed in white, with a crown of white roses on their heads; musicians go before, a young chorister carries the cross, and the followers tumultuously proclaim their joy at the happiness of innocence. The mother subdues her grief, resigning herself to heaven. Whatever pain a Biscayan suffers, his faith renders him patient, and he calmly says *Dios lo quere*, it is God's will.

The Castilian is spoken in the three cantons of Biscay, but mixed with Basque and French: besides which Biscay preserves its own peculiar tongue, as it was spoken in the time of the Romans, and it was probably at that time common to the other provinces of Spain, according to Strabo, Seneca, and Pomponius-Mela; this is the Basque tongue, which has no resemblance whatever to the modern Spanish, is supposed to be as ancient as the country itself, and has no analogy with any known tongue; it has scarcely suffered any corruption or alteration, especially among those who live in the highest parts of the mountains. It appears harsh and coarse to those who do not understand it; but to those who speak it, it is sweet, elegant, and expressive.

There is a remarkable proof of the antiquity of this language in the bare view of some of its words: for instance, the etymology of most of the towns, countries, and rivers in Spain may be found in it; which evidently shows that it contained the ancient idiom of the Spaniards, as those names must have been given from the sense attached to them,

and the signification of which is no where else to be found. We will give some examples. The names of most of the towns and provinces terminate in *bria*, *uria*, *erria*, and *brija*, as Cantabria, Beturia, Celtiberria, Segobrija: these terminations, which are peculiar to Spain, are derived from the words *bria* and *uria*, which in the Basque signify *town*, from erria, which is *land* or *country*, and Brija is the same as Bria, only aspirated. There are others, as Uri, Andia, Calacuris, Gracuris, Asturia, Illurce, Illurco. These remarks apply still more particularly to the signification of the names of towns in respect to their situation: thus, for example, Illiberi or Irriberi, an ancient town near Granada, means in Basque *new town*; Turiaco, the ancient name of Tarrassona, means plenty of springs, and in fact, that town is famous for the quality of its waters, which were formerly of service in iron works. It is watered by the Quellis, or Chalybes, of which we have already spoken. Illipula, a town situated on a point. Illurce, a town at the water side. The Ebro, which in the Basque signifies *great river*, from the words *Ibai*, river, and *Ero* or *Erua*, violent, was one of the most considerable rivers among the Celtiberi. But these are only physical proofs.

An argument more philosophical, and more interesting is found in examining the principal expressions of this language, which are not formed from any custom or belief, but taken from images of nature, and the observation of its progress. The moon, for instance, gave these people their terms for the months, which they divided into ascending moon, Ilgoria, and descending moon, Ilberia. A like observation on the sun led them to divide the year into two parts, summer, and winter, according to the solstices, and according to the increase and decrease of the days. They differed in this from the ancient nations, most of whom began the year either in March, when nature again begins to put forth, or in September at harvest time. They justly thought that vegetation became active some months before the spring, as the germ is formed long before it appears at the surface of the ground, and they commenced

menced the year on the 21st of December, with the first quarter of the sun. The three first months, they called the first summer, *unda barija*; the second quarter extended to the 21st of June, and was called *barija été*; and as from that period, the days began to decrease, and nature to take a mature and retrograde movement, they called the three following months *winter;* and, lastly, the three remaining months *last winter*. The like judicious application is found in the names of the months, according to their natural distinctions. In none of these denominations do we find traditions from other nations, or attributions to any divinity. They all preserve their primitive sense, and bring to mind the original ideas on which they were framed. I larguia, the moon, literally signifies *light which comes to go* ; Eguzgia, the sun, *thing of the day*, or *property of day*. Eguna, the day, in its composition, means *time of activity*, from eguin to do, to act: Jaungoicoa, God, is *Lord on high*; Eriotza, death, *the cold distemper*.

A deeper investigation of this language, would be of use in illustrating the character of these people, and would afford a curious view of their manners and notions*.

* There are two ingenious works on this subject, in Spain; one by M. Astarloa, the other by M. de Erro y Aspirroz.

THE MOUNTAINS OF ST. ANDERO.

On the coast of Biscay, between Asturia de Santillana, Old Castile, and Biscay, there is a canton*, or little province, called Las Montagnas de Sant-Ander, and de Burgos, or more generally Las Montagnas, that is to say, the mountains of St. Andrew, and of Burgos. The town of St. Andero is its chief place, the harbour of which is situated to the east of Santillana, in a peninsula, twenty leagues west of Bilbao, and thirty five north-west of Burgos: its bishopric which was erected in 1754, is suffragan to the metropolitan of the latter city.

The direct road from Bilbao to St. Andero, fifteen long leagues, has several dangerous and almost impassable places, over which it is impos-

* This canton has hitherto been confounded in geographical works, sometimes with Asturia Santillana, and sometimes with Biscay-proper.

sible

sible for any kind of carriage to go: the journey can only be made on horseback, or afoot.

This canton was a part of the country which the Romans had such difficulty in subjecting, and which afterwards resisted the efforts of the Moors. It formerly enjoyed the privileges and franchises which Biscay still retains in part, but it preferred being under the same laws as the rest of Spain. The coast of the province of St. Andero, is the same as that called the coast of Cantabria, which extends from the castle and Cape Ortegal in Galicia, to the bottom of the Bay of Biscay. It has some harbours very useful as channels of commerce, such as those of St. Vincent de la Barquera, St. Martin de la Arena, to the north-west, and Castro-Urdiales, to the east of St. Andero. But the harbour of St. Ogna, also to the east, might be made one of the greatest consequence, and certainly preferable to Port Passage, near St. Sebastian in Guipuzcoa. It even seems adapted to an establishment for the Royal Navy. The entrance of the harbour is easy, and wide enough to allow ships to beat to windward, so that when driven by stormy weather into port, they might venture in without any fear of being land-locked. The bason, which is deep enough to admit first rate men of war, has the advantage of an excellent anchorage, called del Frayle near the mouth, where a ship may anchor as soon as it gets within, and lie sheltered from the violent north-westers, which

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are very dangerous, and very common on these shores towards the end of autumn. It is allowed to have the advantage of Passage Port, in being more sheltered to the west, in the facility of its entrance, the goodness of its anchorage, and its security in general.

Notwithstanding this, the harbour of St. Ogna remains still more unknown than its wretched village, which no highway reaches; and on this fine bason that seems formed to receive the wealth of the two Indies, only a few fishing boats are to be seen.

The port of St. Andero reaps the advantage of the total neglect of St. Ogna, as it enjoys all the trade which the latter might share. It is not, however, to be denied that the harbour of St. Andero is good, spacious, sheltered, and easily entered, even in bad weather, and at low water, by merchantmen of all burdens, which find in it good anchorage; but as to men of war, even a forty gun frigate must wait for the tide to cross the bar. The anchorage is close to the town, and such vessels as go into the inner bason, moor alongside a quay of great beauty, thirty feet broad, between them and the warehouses. This is of infinite advantage for the quick and cheap conveyance of bales, the superintending the persons employed, and the certainty of shipping dry, such goods as wet would injure.

St. Andero is one of the first commercial ports of Spain,

Spain, because it is in the number of those, called *abilitados*, that is, authorised to carry on every kind of trade with America, which gives it a real advantage over the ports of Bilbao, and St. Sebastian: neither of these being *abilitados* they are obliged to make the ships which they send to Spanish America, touch at St. Andero, that their cargoes may be entered there, under the name and consignment of one of the forty two merchants on the commercial register of that place, and the same at their return. These merchants are content with a moderate interest, which they receive for the loan of their names to cover the speculations made by this means by the merchants of Biscay, and Guipuzcoa, as well as by the English and French settled at St. Andero, making altogether about eighteen houses not registered. The inhabitants of St. Andero, indolent, or unambitious, allow strangers to enjoy the advantages of their situation and of their privileges; however, more patriotic than the merchants in other parts of Spain, they take less of their commodities for exportation from foreign manufactures, and their speculations turn out the better for it; but the Spanish goods not being sufficient for the consumption of America, they have likewise recourse to foreign articles, with this distinction, that it is only to supply the deficiency and complete their cargoes.

The commerce of St. Andero is as considerable

able with the Spanish colonies, as with the north of Europe; which is the natural consequence of its position, that enables it to profit by the privilege of the harbour of Bilbao, and its proximity to Bayonne, which facilitates its vent of colonial commodities, by means of a very brisk coasting trade. Great roads running from the interior of Spain, this little province is readily supplied with all the corn, oil, and wine, it wants. A communication with the provinces of Rioja, Aragon, and Navarre, has been lately opened, but there are still wanting two more roads to complete the prosperity of St. Andero: one by the sea side, eastward, to Bilbao, and another along the shore, to the west, communicating with Asturia, and Galicia; for in commerce, as in every thing else, dispatch, and the security of expedition, are of the greatest advantage. Speculating colonists send home their produce in advance, and while this is circulating in the Castiles and foreign countries, their correspondents at Bilbao, and St. Andero, order cargoes in return: the commodities for this purpose come slowly, as well as the goods which they are obliged to send for directly from foreign countries; and all these delays must necessarily be prejudicial to the interest of the colonists.

The wools called *leonesas* and *sorianas*, are shipped at the port of St. Andero; the merchants of the place might themselves carry on exclusively this branch of commerce, if they but knew how

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to make use of the advantages which their position gives them over Bilbao, and they would soon make themselves masters of it. Another advantage is the abatement of one-fourth per cent, allowed at the custom-houses of Burgos, on the wools going to this port, which also shows that the government is willing to encourage exportations by St. Andero, which enjoys a further privilege in the abatement of two and a half per cent on silver, coined or in bar, landed there from America, while in the other ports of the kingdom they pay twice as much.

Flour is exported from St. Andero, both fine and coarse. The quantity shipped, whether for America, or Europe, is estimated at 42,000 barrels. At Torrelavega, a town four leagues from St. Andero, the duke de l'Infantado established a spinning machine of curious mechanism and other machines, for carding, spinning, bleaching, and working cotton: they make muslins, and other stuffs, approaching the perfection attributed to the cotton manufactures of England.

The town of St. Andero is built on an eminence, and its harbour is defended by two forts or castles. It has several churches, among others its collegiate, a convent of Franciscans, and one of the nuns of St. Claire. Its soil produces excellent wines. Its population is about 10,000 inhabitants, and it has several manufactories which contribute

tribute to their prosperity: they are as follows; three breweries, one of which furnishes upwards of 200,000 bottles of beer for the consumption of the Spanish colonies, where it is in great request; two baking houses for refining sugar; a place for making cables, famous for their quality, some of them are one hundred and fifty fathoms long; several tan yards; some manufactories of liqueurs; one of candles, which makes one thousand quintals annually; twenty five forges; five hammering mills, which annually beat 26,000 quintals of iron; and some royal founderies for anchors, cannon, bombs, and ball. This town is a residence for foreign consuls, to whom individuals of their respective nations living at the ports of Biscay, must apply when necessary; for it is one of the privileges of the Biscayan province, that no political or commercial agent is to reside in its towns or ports. There is a consular tribunal at St. Andero for commercial affairs, composed of a president, two consuls, and twelve assistant judges, who determine according to the laws in use at Bilbao.

The inhabitants of the Cantabrian province of St. Andero, are in general mild, obliging, and very sociable. Like the Biscayans, they have all the prerogative of a reputed nobility. No great resource is found in agriculture; maize is cultivated in this canton, and a considerable quantity of

of cattle are fatted on the excellent pastures afforded by the valleys and mountains. Iron mines, not inferior to those of Biscay, are found here. The iron which is not worked in the country, is sent in a crude state to the colonies.

That the reader may judge more easily and circumstantially of the trade of St Andero, we will here give a rough statement of the ships that entered and cleared at that port in the year 1803, with the different articles of their cargoes.

Ships that cleared in 1803, *from the Port of St. Andero.*

NUMBER.	CARGO.
For the Havanna. 2 frigates. 1 brig.	5,470 quintals of iron. 9,800 bottles of beer. 3,000 volumes of printed works. 547,000 lbs. of steel. 3,840 bottles of different liqueurs or drink, and other articles of Spanish production.
For Vera-Cruz. 4 frigates. 14 brigs.	28,850 quintals of iron. 3,236 quintals of steel. 35,000 bottles of beer. 2,532 reams of paper. Oil, brandy, soap, cider, drugs, cinnamon, iron-ware, and jewels.
For Monte-Video. 12 frigates. 5 brigs.	8,500 quintals of iron. 171 quintals of steel. 12,700 bottles of beer. 3,400 reams of paper. 2,000 volumes of printed works. 7,092 lbs. of refined sugar. Hats, silks, &c.

NUMBER.	CARGO.
For Guayra. 2 frigates. 4 brigs. 1 schooner.	1,800 quintals of iron. 136 quintals of steel. 3,136 bottles of beer. 3 cases of printed books. Besides blonds, nankeens, 16 cases of cinnamon and medicines, flour, hats, iron-ware, and jewels.

Ships which entered at St. Andero in 1803, *laden with Colonial produce.*

NUMBER.	CARGO.
From the Havanna. 7 frigates. 12 brigs. 1 schooner.	300,000 hard dollars, or 62,500l. 78,153 arobas of sugar. 11,500 chests of sugar. 1,000 arobas of cochineal. 102 arobas of indigo. 466 quintals of coffee. 340 quintals of cotton. 3,100 planks of logwood. 3,000 pounds of cigars and tobacco.
From Vera-Cruz. 3 frigates. 1 brig. 1 schooner.	1,600,000 hard dollars, or 333,333l. 6s. 452 quintals of logwood. 400 pounds weight of cocoa. 2,000 hides. 7,000 pounds weight of pepper. 3,000 pounds of sarsaparilla & drugs. 194,000 pounds of vanilla. 202 marks of silver in ingots.
From Guayra. 3 brigs. 1 schooner. 1 cachemarin.	4,000 pounds of indigo. 2,500 pounds of coffee. 600 quintals of cotton. 6,500 fanegas of cocoa. 1,306 hides. 130 quintals of copper.
From Monte-Video. 1 frigate. 2 brigs. 1 schooner. 1 polacre.	4,000 hard dollars, or 833l. 6s. 1,700 quintals of coffee. 3,500 hides. 113 quintals of copper. 300 quintals of tallow. 25,000 horns for making combs. 16 weight of furs.

NUMBER.	CARGO.
From Carthagena. 2 brigs.	2,000 hard dollars, or 416l. 13s. 480 arobas of sugar. 2,700 quintals of cotton. 1,903 quintals of brasil wood. 12 quintals of cocoa. 400 hides.
From Boston—the United States. 1 frigate.	563 chests of sugar. 64 quintals of cotton. 864 quintals of salt-fish.
From Porto-Cabello. 2 brigs.	1,200 arobas of indigo. 160 quintals of coffee. 225 bags of cotton (each bag 125lbs) 2,865 fanegas of cocoa. 640 hides. 130 quintals of copper.

Other ships which entered the harbour of St. Andero, with the productions of their respective countries, during the year 1803.

One Dutch, 7 Prussian, 62 French, 14 Spanish coasters, 2 Danish, 12 English, 2 Swedish, 6 Hamburgian, 10 American, not including the frigate from Boston which has been mentioned; which produce a total of 116 merchant vessels.

Ships cleared out at St. Andero, in 1803, *for the ports of Europe, freighted with the productions of Spain and the commodities of its colonies.*

Dutch . .	6	For Amsterdam . .	387 bags.
Prussians . .	12	For Bristol . . .	2,741
French . .	16	For Antwerp . . .	746
		For Saint Valery .	369
Spanish . .	21	For Havre-de-Grace	617
English . .	16	For Chester . . .	1,997

Hamburgians

Hamburgians .	5	For London . . .	900 bags.
Swedes . .	1	For Rouen . . .	4,305
Lubeckians .	1	For Southampton .	309
Total Ships .	78	carrying	12,971 bags

which makes 15,463¾ quintals.

The remaining part of the cargoes of these ships consisted of indigo, sugar, coffee, cochineal, logwood, brasil-wood, hides, and cotton.

Statement of money arising from the duties at the custom houses of St. Andero, which was paid into the royal treasury during the year 1803.

Note. It is necessary to observe that the articles which are used in this little province are subject to lower duties than those generally established in the rest of the kingdom. Articles sent out of the province pay a third less than those which remain in it; and the money for the consolidation of the royal bills pays a third less than in the interior.

	Reals.	*m.*	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Duties on general rents	12,120,183		126,252	10	2½
On the mortgage of Government Bills . .	4,012,610	10	41,798	12	9½
On merchandise passing into the interior . .	239,456	17	2,49	4 6	10
The duties on the sale of fish, *Alcavala de Pescado.*	35,398	16	369	11	½
Total . .	16,407,648	19	or 170,915	0	10½

From the accounts of the consular tribunal of St. Andero, it is proved that in the above year, 1803, the custom-house collected

collected 3,000,000 reals of vellon, or 31,250l. by the duty of one per cent. upon articles entered and cleared; and by adding to this sum those arising from other duties, we may calculate that, in the course of the year 1803, there entered into this port merchandize amounting to upwards of 30,000,000 of pesos (6,250,000l.) though the vessels called galleons, freighted with silver, from Vera-Cruz, Lima, and Monte-Video, were detained during the war, which terminated in 1802, and sent to Cadiz at the peace.

THE

THE PRINCIPALITY OF THE ASTURIAS.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Asturias are situated on the north of Spain; they form a long unequal square, which opens to the north on the Bay of Biscay; is bounded on the east by that province and Las Montagnas, or the country of St. Andero; on the south-east by Old Castile; on the south by the kingdom of Leon; and on the west by Galicia. This principality is divided into two provinces, which take the name of their capital towns: the Asturia of Oviedo, and the Asturia of Santillana*.

Under the Romans, the Asturias were placed between the Cantabri, the Celti, and on the west the Callaïci, all of whom formed part of the third grand division, called the Tarraconese. It is said that the name of Asturia is derived from the river so called, which after passing the walls of As-

* This division is fictitious; it is not attended to in the government.

torga,

torga, in the kingdom of Leon, throws itself into the Duero.

The Asturia of Oviedo occupies two-thirds of the principality to the west; it is about thirty leagues in its mean length from east to west, where it is bordered by Galicia, and is eighteen leagues from north to south. Its principal towns are Oviedo, Aviles, Luarca, Gijon, Navia, Cangas de Tinco, Mierez, Castropol, Arvas, Villa-Viciosa, Peñafort, Manseret, Verco, Tores, &c, and its principal rivers are, the Navia, the Nalon, the Ovio, or Ove, the Deva, the Narcea, the Nora, the Asla, the Miranda*, and the Pilona.

The Asturia of Santillana occupies the other third of the principality to the east; it is about sixteen leagues long from west to east, where it is bordered by the canton of St. Andero, &c., and about twelve from south to north. Its principal towns are: Santillana, San-Vincente, Riva de Sella, Villa Suso, Llanes, Columbrez, Venta de Verco, Cabezon, Fuente de Nanza, &c.; its rivers are, the Besaya, the San-Vincente, the Sella, the Rouno, the Curado, the Deva, the Piloña, &c.

Besides the towns which have been already mentioned, there are a number of other towns and considerable boroughs in the two Asturias: Cangas de Onis, Onis, Vega, Cudillero, Luarca, Pravia, Luanco, &c.

* Which belongs more particularly to Galicia. See kingdom of Galicia.

There are several ports in the Asturias, the principal of which are, Gijon, Luarca, and Cudillero.

This country is the most mountainous in Spain; its mountains are covered with excellent pasturage, and a great variety of trees; the apple trees are very abundant, and a great deal of cyder is made from them. There is a small quantity of wheat, flax, hemp, and a great deal of fruit. The Asturians breed large herds of horned cattle, and horses valued for their strength. A great many mineral waters are found in the country.

The two Asturias contain a bishopric, a cathedral chapter, two collegiate chapters, six hundred and eighty-eight parishes, twenty-three convents for both sexes, eleven hospitals, two asylums, a military government, a royal court of justice, a university, three colleges, four cities, fifty towns, a great number of villages, three harbours, two thousand two hundred and sixty-eight secular priests and parish priests, three hundred and ninety monks, two hundred nuns, one hundred and fourteen thousand two hundred and seventy four hidalgos or nobles, three hundred advocates and writers, fifteen hundred students, and about six thousand two hundred servants. The total population is calculated at 348,000 persons.

In travelling through the Asturias, we visit one of the most interesting places in modern history; it brings to our mind the noble and virtuous firmness

ness of a small people who preserved a great monarchy. On this soil of heroes, what pleasure is it to feel that a lofty spirit, a determined courage, and an energetic resolution, can withstand the attacks of conquerors. In climbing the mountains of Verdoyonta and Ansena, in contemplating those rocks, the unperishable monuments of the glory of the Asturians, we glow with admiration. These men braved the triumphs of all the conquerors of Spain, of that beautiful country which seemed destined by heaven to be by turns subjected to different foreign powers. The Asturians never bowed under the yoke of the Carthaginians or Romans; far from shedding their blood that they might serve the ambition of Pompey or form part of the usurpation of Cæsar, they, on the contrary, assigned limits to their power, and those limits were the Asturias. Free under the Goths, the Asturians afterwards displayed in their favour that generosity which is the essence of true courage. After the famous battle of Xeres-de-la-Frontera, (on the 11th November 711) which confirmed the usurpation of the Moors in Spain, they cheerfully opened their arms to receive prince Pelagius, and all the christians who escaped from the chains of the Arabians. Pelagius conceived that he had only changed his abode to a new palace in the cavern of Ansena, on finding himself surrounded by all the christians who had followed him, and with

faithful allies who only wished for the moment of rushing with him to battle. Incursions and attacks were frequently attended with considerable success, and the Moors intimidated, retreated far from these illustrious mountains*; and thus in the Asturias did Pelagius lay the foundations of the Spanish monarchy†.

The province of the Asturias not only afforded an asylum to the Gothic princes, and a refuge to the lords who had followed Pelagius, but it received the holy ark of the New-Testament, and preserved the deposit of faith‡.

It afterwards formed a principality, and its title became that of the eldest sons of the catholic kings, from the year 1388; the Infant Don Henriquez, son of John I, king of Castile and Leon, was the first who bore it.

There is only one great road through the principality of the Asturias, which leads from Madrid to Oviedo, through the kingdom of Leon; and two which go, the one from Oviedo to Gijon, and the other to Aviles, sea ports, both five leagues distant from Oviedo. The road from Galicia to

* From this era are dated the privileges of nobility which the Asturians still retain; those particularly of the mountain of Ansena are distinguished from their countrymen by the title of the *illustrious mountaineers*.

† See the kingdom of Leon.

‡ See Oviedo, page 405.

Biscay,

Biscay, called the Sea-side Road, can only be passed on horseback. This road crosses the Asturias from east to west, along the coast.

Road from the frontiers of the kingdom of Leon to Oviedo, 13 leagues.

From Buisa, a village on the frontiers of Leon to Pajares,	4 leagues.
Vega-del-Ciego,	4
Oviedo, (the capital)	5

On leaving the kingdom of Leon, on the road from Madrid, we cross the Sierra de las Asturias, high mountains which seem to be branches of those of Biscay; they spread over the south of the Asturias and form a natural separation between them and the kingdom of Leon and Old Castile. At a little distance from Pajares we come to a bridge which bears the same name; we afterwards arrive at the Puente de los Hierros, where we pass the river Candal, which we afterwards repass at the Puente de Uja San Juliano; we follow the course of the Nalon as far as Fereras, where we cross that river, and afterwards enter the plain which leads to Oviedo.

Oviedo, *Ovietum*, eighteen leagues north by west of Leon. This is an ancient town, and one of the most important in the history of the monarchy of Spain. It is the only city, and the capital of the Asturia of its name. This town is situated

situated on a plain, rather elevated, at the confluence of the two little rivers, Ovia or Ove, and Nora, the former of which throws itself into the Nora and this into the Nalon, the first running to the north, and the second to the south of Oviedo.

Some authors make Oviedo *Lucus Asturum*; but it appears that this was not at the same place. According to others Oviedo received its name from the Ovia, after Froila, the grand son of Pelagius, had built it in 757; and according to others again, it was so considerable even in the time of Pelagius, that after his first successes, he made it the chief place of his states, and transferred to it the episcopal see of a neighbouring town called Emerita. However that may be, Oviedo, in the ninth century, was honoured throughout Christendom with the singular title of the *City of Bishops*, because a number of these, exiled and persecuted by the Saracens, took refuge there from their malignity. In the year 901 a national council was held here for the reform of the secular clergy of Spain, and the ecclesiastical administration of the churches, both having fallen into disorder from the calamity of the times. While this council was convened, the bishopric was erected into an archbishopric by the pope, at the request of Alphonso the Great, and Hermengilde was the first archbishop of it; but this dignity was afterwards transferred to the church of Saint Iago de Compostella, and Oviedo again

again became a bishopric, but without being suffragan to Compostella, nor does it hold of the court of Rome; its revenue is estimated at 1250l.

Clergy. There are at Oviedo, an episcopal palace, a cathedral, a collegiate chapter, three parishes, three convents of monks, three convents of nuns, three colleges, three hospitals, a university founded in 1580, a drawing school, a royal audience, an alcade mayor, a common administration, &c.

Population. Its population is about 6,400 inhabitants.

Streets and Squares. The streets are tolerably straight, regular and well paved. The principal square is handsome and large, almost all the streets of the town open into it, and the market is held there.

Public Edifices. The cathedral is said to have been founded by Froila I, in 760. It is very handsome, gothic, and built entirely of free stone; the interior is large, but the light is not sufficiently admitted, it is, however, of a remarkable structure. In one of the chapels, the bones of fourteen kings and queens are preserved. The treasury is rich in valuable vases, relics, and ornaments.

The church of San-Salvador was built by a prince named Silo. This is without doubt the Silo, who, in 774, was tutor to the young Alphonso II, the son of Froila, and who reigned during nine years, until Mauregat usurped the power from both tutor and pupil. It is a very beautiful church. Near the grand entrance stands the tomb of its founder, with the inscription *Silo princeps fecit* singularly combined in fifteen horizontal lines and nineteen perpendicular columns of letters; the T forms the beginning and the end of the first and last line; in consequence of which the name Silo is not to be found till the eighth line, and the S, which begins it, is exactly in the centre of that line and of the tenth column; thus the name is in the shape of a cross, as the letters above, below, and on each side of the S, form the word Silo; this was the

the aim of the artist. Upon the same monument are the letters H. E. S. S. S. S. T. L. these initials are interpreted *Hic Est Situs Silo. Sit Sibi Terra Levis.* The church of San Salvador is enriched with a great number of relics which were carried there by all the christians who preserved them from the hands of the Moors; no other in the world possesses so many; amongst them we cannot pass over in silence a beautiful gold cross, which tradition reports to be the work of angels; an ark of an unknown and marvellous wood, not liable to decay, and which is said to have been made by some of the apostles; it has passed successively from Asia to Africa, and from Africa to Spain; a piece of the rock of Mount Sinai; the bodies of several saints, and that of king Alphonso the Chaste, who endowed this church. The court is ornamented with porticos.

The University. This building is not without taste, it is well distributed, and there are some fine halls in it; this edifice may be considered, on every account, as one of the handsome ornaments of the town.

The Aqueduct which conveys the water from the spring of Tentoria del Boo to the town is of free stone, and has forty arcades; but it is far from being remarkable, compared to those of Segovia and Tarragona.

The drawing school is well supported; the funds are taken from those of the royal society of economy.

Commerce and Manufactures. Oviedo has little commerce; there are eighteen wholesale merchants, trading in colonial and foreign commodities, which come to Gijon. There are likewise two tan yards, which furnish nearly seven thousand hides, as well prepared as those of Niort; a manufactory of hats of a good quality, one of horn combs and bone buttons, and, lastly, a grand magazine of arms for the army, which is under the direction of the government.

Road

Road from Oviedo to Gijon, 4 leagues.

This road runs to the north-north-east; at Luganes we pass the river Nora, and have to cross the mountains of Belga, and Biesca, but the road is good, and easy even for carriages. We arrive at Gijon, after passing through a territory very productive in rye, and maize, where we also find a great quantity of apples, of which the inhabitants make excellent cyder. There are extensive pastures in this part of the country, where the flocks are very numerous.

Gijon, is a sea-port situated on a peninsula. Although this place has never been considerable, it is mentioned in history, and is celebrated for having afforded to the great Pelagius a last retreat, when he escaped from the Saracen troops; what was then only a paltry borough, inhabited by fishermen, became a town, and the capital of all Asturia. Pelagius and his successors bore the title of counts of Gijon, and afterwards of Oviedo, until Alphonso II, who took that of king of Leon. The harbour of Gijon is advantageously situated; the interior of it is tolerably spacious; merchant vessels of every burthen can anchor in it; it has a good bottom, and is well sheltered. A castle defends the town, which has a population of about 3000 inhabitants; yet it has only one parish church, one convent of nuns, and one chapel: it has also a hospital.

hospital. Its administration is composed of a military governor, and a *concejo*, or municipal council, which is a privilege. It has fourteen great mercantile houses that have a considerable trade: the articles of commerce which the country produces, are chesnuts, walnuts, hazel nuts, and cyder; the last is exported to America, and the others to the countries of the north. Mill-stones are likewise sent abroad, the manufactories for which are established in some quarries in the environs of the town.

Road from Oviedo to Aviles, 4 leagues.

We also pass the Nora in going from Oviedo to Aviles; but at the village of Cayes, a little to the north of Lugones. We afterwards cross the mountains of Fresno, and the Sierra de Peral, and arrive at Aviles, following the whole course of the river upon which that town is situated, the mouth of which opens into the sea, a league farther. In these mountains there are mines of copper, coal, and free-stone; pastures in the valleys, and in some places rye, and maize.

Aviles, *Avila*, is a sea-port town, to the north-north-west of Oviedo, in the bay of Las Peñas,* and is situated upon the left bank of the river Aviles. This town has two parish churches, two convents

* The dash over the ñ in Spanish gives it the liquifaction of gn in French. Thus Pegna, as España, Spain. Peña, signifies rock.

of

of monks, one convent of nuns, an asylum, and some public fountains. Its population is calculated at nearly three thousand persons. Its government is composed of a military corregidor, and a civil administration. The entrance of the river is defended by fort San Juan, which has a distinct commandant. The consistorial house is well built, and decorated with thirteen arcades which support it. The trade here is in fish, and cloths, the manufactories of which are in the town, but these cloths are coarse; there is, however, one sort made which is fine and light, called Beatilla, for the use of the nuns. The market of this town is well furnished with provisions; there are all kinds of corn, pulse, sallads, pot-herbs, good fruit, meat, and excellent fish.

There are many other roads which communicate from Oviedo with the different principal points of the Asturias, but none of them are what is called in Spanish *camino real*, highways.

One of these roads goes to Ribadeo, a town with a harbour, situated at the north-north-west point of the Asturias, on the frontiers of Galicia, passing by Cangas de Tineo: it communicates with Castropol, which is, as well as Rebadeo, at the mouth of the river Miranda, but to the east; with the town of Navia, situated upon the river called after it, the Navias, which waters a beautiful and fertile plain; Navia has a considerable harbour, which carries on some trade, and the inhabitants

bitants are persuaded that it was founded by Ham, one of the sons of Noah, who gave it, as well as the river, the name of his wife Navia; and with the town of Luarca, and Portezuelo. Another road goes from Oviedo to Llanes, a small sea port at the extremity of Asturia, and passes through the town of Cangas-de-Onis. By these roads it is twenty-three leagues from Riba, or Rivadeo to Oviedo, and eighteen from Oviedo to Llanes. Cangas-de-Onis is one of the principal towns of the Asturias: its environs are cheerful, and have a number of places for the traveller to visit. At the distance of almost a league, is the celebrated abbey of our lady of Cobadonga: it is of the highest antiquity in the country; as may be seen by some of the remains of its buildings, the greatest part of which have been repaired. The curious monastery of Saint Peter Villanosa, of the order of Saint-Benoit, is not so far; we are assured, that it occupies the site of a palace of Alphonso I, son of Favila, prince of Oviedo; there is here a Gothic arcade ornamented with bass-reliefs, which bear proofs of their great antiquity; it is said, that this arcade was the entrance to the chapel of the palace. At the gate of the church, the events of the tragic death of the prince Don Favila, are represented in carved work*.

* He succeeded his father Pelagius in 736, and two years and a half after he was torn to pieces by a bear, which he was pursuing in the chase.

There

There are woods, valleys, and pasturages in the territory of the two monasteries; the land is well watered, and carefully cultivated. Oats, rye, maize, apple trees, from which a great deal of cyder is made, walnut, and almond trees are found on it; good vegetables, herbs, &c. &c. are cultivated in the gardens of the convents.

Road from Oviedo to Santillana, by Onis, La Fuente de Nansa, and Cabezon.

Cangas de Onis, and Onis, are two towns in the Asturias. The former is situated at the confluence of two rivers, one of which, the Sella, is crossed by a beautiful bridge, raised, and very strong, though but of a single arch; this town has the freedom of a municipal administration or Concejo. The mouth of the river Sella opens into the sea, a little below the village of Junco. The latter is situated to the east of Cangas, at the foot of a mountain, and near the little river Curado, which receives the Pilona, running from the Asturia of Santillana, and throws itself afterwards into the Sella, to the north and below Cangas.

The boundaries of the two Asturias are formed by some mountains, and by part of the course of the following rivers; the Rouno, as far as El Remedio; the Curado, as far as Onis; the Pilona, as far as the triangle which it forms with the Curado; and the Deva, which takes its rise to the east of the

the Sella, and in the same mountains, and enters the Asturia of Santillana, passing by Puertas, Mettera, and Potes, the chief place of the little country of Liebana, or the five valleys. The town of Potes is but a poor place, and is situated nine leagues from Sant Illana.

The territory of Oviedo was erected, several centuries ago, into a county, and possessed with that title by the House of the Girons; it belongs now to the family of Infantado.

The territory of Santillana has the title of marquisate, and belongs to the dukes of Infantado of the branch of Mendoza.

Santillana, *Santæ Julianæ Fanum.* This town is the capital of the Asturias of its name. It is on the confines of the principality, to the north-east, in an agreeable situation near the sea, and twenty two leagues from Oviedo. It has a royal government, and the right of a municipal administration, or Concejo. There is a fine collegiate church, and a convent of monks in the town. Its population is estimated at four hundred families. In its extensive territory several sorts of grain, flax, and hemp are raised. There are some vine-yards, and cattle of every kind are raised here; there are flocks, game, and excellent fish, which is brought from the little port of San-Martin-de-la-Arena.

Agriculture. The principality of the Asturias, is in general cold, compared with the rest of Spain, owing to its high mountains,

mountains, the tops of which are covered with snow during winter; but throughout the remainder of the year, the air is temperate, and at all times very salubrious.

The Asturias do not produce grain in any great abundance, however there are some territories rich and fertile. Wheat, rye, oats, and maize are cultivated, and a sort of corn called *escanda*, which produces a substantial and very white flour. The vegetables are very good, and there are districts affording excellent fruit: wine is not made here, but apples are plentiful and furnish an immense quantity of cyder. There is also an abundance of chesnuts, walnuts, and hazel nuts; and, at little expense, a greater quantity of filberts might be obtained, which would be an augmentation to commerce. There are large and very rich pastures, where numerous flocks graze; very beautiful and productive valleys; and parcels of arable lands of great extent and value. Horses of some value are raised here.

Population. The total population of both the Asturias, is estimated at 350,000 persons. It cannot be said, that for an extent of seven hundred square leagues, this is a depopulated country; for we must take into consideration the enormous bases of the chains of mountains which are found here, the sides of which are covered with rocks; the many brooks, springs, and rivers which pass through it; the gulleys which are formed in it, and the beds of sand which impoverish some lands, in spite of which the population is nearly five hundred persons for each league. Perhaps it would have been more numerous, but for a certain law of property established here; doubtless there are still remaining some lands to clear, but they form part of the mass of great properties, and the peasant has no interest in cultivating them. It has been said that the Asturian peasant still lives in a feudal state, resembling the situation of the serf in Russia, where the peasant is not only sold with the land, but even forms an article of traffic himself, and may be exchanged, played for, and sold in retail. This may have been the case; for we see amongst the

the privileges enjoyed by the peasants of St. Andero, in the neighbourhood of the Asturia of Santillana, that they have expressly the right, *that neither the king nor any other lord can pledge them, nor sell them for any cause, or on any pretence whatever*; but is this still the case? The great properties in both the Asturias are in the hands of eighty families; properties of the second class are in the hands of the clergy, who are in the proportion of nearly one to one hundred and fifty, including the convents of nuns. In fine, after some properties of the third and fourth class, which form the whole of the landed property, nothing, it is said, remains, but tributary peasants attached to the soil. It must here be observed, that a great number of these peasants go out of the Asturias every year to the southern provinces, to seek work; that they sometimes remain there for three years, and bring back into their own country, and for their own use, the fruits of their industry: whereas in Russia the serf cannot quit the land of his master, who lets him out arbitrarily to another, and for what length of time he pleases, appropriating to himself the price of his labour and industry, which is a very different thing.

In the Asturias, during the absence of the men, their wives undertake the cultivation of the land, and acquit themselves with great spirit.

Natural History. Except in some of the hilly parts of the Asturias, where vegetation is almost unknown, the mountains are wooded; they are covered with trees of almost every kind, particularly fine oaks, which serve for building ships and houses, chesnut trees loaded with fruit, walnut and hazel trees equally good, filberts, ash, &c. In the same mountains there are mines of lead, copper, iron, magnesia, and arsenic; we meet with cobalt, lapis, amianthus, rock crystal, different varieties of very fine marble, and of hard stone. Amber and corals are collected on part of the coasts of the Asturia of Santillana. Besides which the Asturias are said to have had gold mines.

Manufactures and Commerce. There are no considerable manufactories

manufactories in the Asturias, without noticing those in the hands of private persons, of various kinds of woollen and cloths; there are eleven or twelve forges, hammer-mills for making kitchen furniture and nails, others for copper articles, a manufactory of ammunition for the arsenals, and a magazine of arms.

The commerce consists in linens of various qualities, which partly remain in the principality, and are partly sent into the interior of the kingdom; in chesnuts, walnuts, and hazel nuts, the exportation of which is very considerable, especially for England; the port of Gijon is preferred for shipping them. There is also a trade in salt-fish; cyder is a grand object of exportation; it is computed that 28,000 arobas are sent to America. There is also a trade in mill-stones, which are sent to foreign countries.

Coins, weights, and measures. Money is the same in the Asturias as in Castile; but the weights vary essentially.

The Castilian pound is sixteen ounces, or 9,216 grains: the Asturian pound is three marks, or twenty-four ounces, which make 13,824 grains, of Castilian weight. Thus 100 pounds Asturian make 150 pounds Castilian, and 100 pounds Castilian make $66\frac{2}{3}$ pounds Asturian.

The quintal is four arobas, and the aroba is twenty-five pounds, as in Castilian, with the difference between the pounds which has just been explained.

Measures. The Asturian fanega is twelve Castilian celemins, consequently one-third more than the fanega of Castile. Therefore 100 Asturian fanegas are equal to $133\frac{1}{3}$ Castilian fanegas, and 100 of these make but $66\frac{1}{2}$ of the other.

Six quartillos of wine, Asturian measure, make seven quartillos Castilian.

The vara of the Asturias is $455\frac{2}{5}$ lines of Castile, consequently 100 varas Asturian are equal to $103\frac{1}{10}$ varas Castilian; and 100 Castilian varas are equal to 97 Asturian varas.

Highways and Roads. The road called the Sea-side Road, passes by Coaña, where we cross the river Navia, almost at

its mouth: at Luarca, a sea port, we pass the Atalaya, over a bridge, and reach Cadavedo, another little sea port; from this to Cedillero, also a small sea port. We then pass the Pravia, or Pavia, at a place named Barco de Binera, Avileo, Gijon, Villaviciosa on the Linarez, where there is a bridge, and where the inhabitants carry on a little trade; Colunga, with a bridge over a small river which bears its name; Biba de Sella, with a bridge over the Cavallo; Llanes, and all the Santillana. We then enter the little province called Las Montanas de Sant Andero, by the village of La Franca.

This road, or way, runs along almost the whole length of the Asturias from west to east, an extent of forty leagues, and in a part always along the ocean. We have thirty-one rivers, great and small, to cross, and many of them at their mouth, over ten of which there are bridges; five we pass in boats, and the others we ford.

An adequate idea cannot possibly be entertained of the danger of such a road, even on horseback. At times we are on the very top of the highest mountains, the prospect from which extends far on the sea. At others we find ourselves as it were engulfed in a narrow passage, where the view is limited to a few yards, or perhaps less, while above us the mountains rise in peaks, and hide themselves in the clouds. Now a thick and dark wood excludes the day; now, and perhaps suddenly, the reflection of the sun on white rocks dazzles and distresses. Here we behold all the roughness of parched and sterile nature; there all the riches of vegetation, fresh and vigorous: then again, mountains covered with snow which braves the summer solstice, while at their bases groves teem with roses and all the flowers of the spring, which ornament during the winter these delicious vales, we meet every instant, and which bud under the shelter of the hoar frost collected upon them.

Limpid and wholesome water, springs spouting out of the earth, cascades and fountains, are found in a thousand places; an assemblage of every shade of verdure that nature can present

sent, enchants the traveller, wearied with the sight of barren rocks, or the uniformity of colour reflected by the ocean.

The careless herdsmen*, woodmen, and labourers, are insensible to the sublime contrast, because it is continually before them: the merchant passes it fretting at the difficulties of the road which may retard his speculations: the observer, and the lover of the sublime pictures of nature, are the only beings who take pleasure here; the one admires, the other is in raptures.

Though there is but one grand communication between the Asturias and the kingdom of Leon, there are eighteen passages in the mountains which separate the two countries: namely, del Quadro, de Cienfuegas, Cerredo-San-Antonio, Leitariegos, Zareza, Semiedo, de la Meza, Ventana, Cubilla, Pajares, Piedrafita, Ligneras, Sant-Isidro, Catiagro, Tarna, Ventaniella, Arcenario, and Beza.

We find but little accommodation in the inns of the two Asturias, and we must take precautions against their want of cleanliness.

Character of the Asturians. A strong attachment to their country, an unshaken fidelity to their sovereign, a passive obedience to the laws, an ardent zeal for religion, and a probity proof against all temptations, are the hereditary features of the character of the Asturians, to which we may add boldness and courage. They have no vivacity in their manners; they may be accused, and they are, of dulness; and yet the Asturias have given birth to distinguished men of every kind. The Asturian's probity may be considered as proverbial; he is even disinterested, taking this word in its strictest sense. Theft is unknown amongst these honest mountaineers, and with

* These are the Vaqueros, a sort of wandering tribe: they inhabit the sea shores in winter, and in summer various mountains, amongst others those of the Tariejos Their only employment is the care of flocks, and they live on their produce. They confine their society and marriages among themselves.

regard to what is called dissipation, amusement, or pleasure, their simple manners differ from those of the other Spaniards. They do not know what is every where else called the highest degree of civilization; they are sheltered from it behind their rocks, where, happy and peaceful, they confine themselves to their duties; and in general live to a good old age, because their constitution is healthy and robust.

KINGDOM OF GALICIA.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Galicia is situated at the north-west angle of Spain, and forms a very irregular kind of square. It lies, to the north and west, on the Atlantic ocean; to the east it is bounded by the Asturia of Oviedo and the kingdom of Leon, and to the south by the Portuguese provinces of Tras-los-Montes and Entre-Douro-y-miño. Its mean extent is about forty-six leagues from north to south, and forty leagues from east to west. This country took its name from the ancient nations that inhabited it, Callaici, whence come the names of Gallæci, Galiciæ, and Galicia.

This country of the Callaicians formerly extended farther, and took in a part of Old Castile. We have reason to suppose so, because Numantia was at the entrance of their territory, at the source of the Ducro, and the site on which this town was built is now in Castile.

The mountains of Galicia were, as well as those of the Asturias and Biscay, the asylums where the Cantabrians resisted all the forces of the Romans, who after subjugating the Gauls and Spain, met with no resistance but from these courageous and independent people, who defended the defiles of their mountains against the numerous legions of Rome. In the year 714, the Moors met strong barriers to their invasion in the mountains of Mendinela, Beisama, and others.

Galicia was constituted a kingdom in the year 1060, by Ferdinand, called the Great, king of Leon and Castile, who gave this province to his son Don Garcias. But till the reign of Ferdinand V and Isabella, in 1474, the inhabitants, shut up by their mountains and rivers, cared very little for the royal authority. The nobility were sovereigns in their own territories, and they supported their subjects, who pillaged strangers that came within them: the whole country altogether laughed at the governors who were sent to them. Ferdinand and Isabella, whose good fortune had never been equalled by any monarch on earth, and for whom every kind of glory was reserved, put an end to these disorders: by civilizing the country, they attached the inhabitants to them, and entered into an engagement with the Galicians, that their kingdom should always preserve its title. It is at present the most populous province in Spain.

This country, in general, is very mountainous; having

having beautiful valleys, and little plains: the mountains are for the most part well wooded, and abound in game. The lands produce some wheat and oats, a great deal of maize, millet, flax, hemp, pulse, lemons, and other fruit, and in some places wine. There are vast numbers of oak, walnut, chesnut, and hazel trees. The inhabitants raise a great many horned cattle and mules. One of the principal branches of the industry of this province consists in woollen manufactures, in blankets, hosiery, and particularly in common linens.

The mass of people here, as every where else, have scarcely any property, and the lands belong generally to the nobles, to churches, and to monasteries.

Galicia is divided in the middle by a chain of mountains which proceeds from the Pyrenees near Roncevallos, between Biscay and Navarre, directing its course to the north-west, and leaving on its right the Asturias, penetrating by Leon into Galicia, which it traverses, and continues till it is stopped by the sea, after forming Cabo Finisterra*: this chain should seem to cross the whole of Spain from the Sierra d'Occa, formerly Idubeda. The mountains of this Galician branch have different names; the most considerable or remarkable is the Sierra de Mondoñedo, of a great extent; it occupies the whole extremity of the north-east of Ga-

* Cape Finisterre.

licia

licia towards the Asturian boundary to the east, and proceeds to the north as far as Cabo Ortegal, and to the west as far as the Atlantic Ocean.

This kingdom, having a hundred leagues of coast, has numerous ports, some on the north, and others on the western ocean. There are more than forty, but they are for the most part very small. The following deserve to be noticed: Maria, Corcuvion, Bayona, Pontevedra, Muroz, Guardia, Vigo, Coruña, Ferrol, Santa Marta, Vivero, Ribadeo, &c.

The chief rivers are as follows: the Eo, or Rio de Miranda; this is the most remarkable, because its course is through the frontiers of the Asturias, and separates them from Galicia; it rises in Galicia, above Salvatierra, at the separation of Galicia and of the western and northern part of the kingdom of Leon; it runs four leagues in Galicia, passes on to Ferreira and to San-Romana, marking the division of the Asturia of Oviedo; continuing to Ragualiez in Oviedo, Fuen-Sagrada, and Navia de Barca in Galicia, it receives the Norcea at Buron in Galicia, touches at Bual in Asturia, at Grandas de Salime, and Abrez in Galicia, and at length falls into the northern ocean above Ribadeo in Galicia, and Castropol in Asturia; its course is twenty-four leagues from south-east to the north: the Buroia, which rises in Leon: the Vedra, the Caldelas, the Loriz, and the Ulla, (Ilia) which has a course of twenty-three leagues from the north-

north-east to the south-east; the San-Justo, and the Tambra (Tamaris, which gives the name of Tamaricians to the people on its banks). Its course is twenty leagues from the north-east to the south-west; the Lezara, which falls into the Tambra; the Mandeo, which has a course of sixteen leagues from the east to the north-east, and passes near Villalva and Betanzos; the Eu-me, which rises in the Sierra Mondoñedo, and whose course from the east to the north-west, is six leagues; it falls into the ocean at Redes; the Juvia, the Lor, which falls into the Sil; the Tua, which falls into the Tuelo, as well as the Regoa; the Tamaga, the Limia; the Miño, *Minho* in Portuguese, in Latin *Minius*, derives its name from minium or vermillion, which is found in abundance in its neighbourhood; it rises in the east of the Sierra Mondoñedo, above Castro-de-Rey, receives the waters of the Cuytella and the Ouaria, passes to Lugo, receives the Chouro, and at San-Martino de Coba the Sil, and then pursuing the boundary of Galicia, separates it from Portugal, whence it proceeds and falls into the ocean near the port of Guardia; its course is about fifty-two leagues, first from north to south, then to the south-west; the Sarria, which falls into the Chouro; the Sil (Silus) rises in the mountains to the west of Leon, where it receives the Baeza and the Buroia in Galicia, passes on to San-Estevan, and to Torbe, where it receives the Lor, and in its turn falls into the Miño; its course is

thirty-

thirty-three leagues; the Sisto, or Sixto; the Cascas; the Landrove, which passes by Vivero and San-Roman. There are still many other rivers, such as the Avia, which passes by Ibadavia; the Rozos, or Ruzos, which passes to Sadron; the Cabe, which passes near Mondoñedo, &c. &c. In short, they reckon seventy rivers, without including an infinite number of small streams.

The principal towns of Galicia are, 1st, inland: San Jago de Compostella, Lugo, Orense, Mondoñedo, Tuy, Porto-Marin, Portvelezar, Sarria, Torbeo, Velezar, Salvatierra, Monforte-de-Lemos, Vyana, Monterey, Ponte-Vedra, Celanon, Vivero, Vivadro, Mellid, &c.; 2dly, on the coasts, Coruña, Finisterra, Bayona, Gondomar, Muroz, Rivaldeo, Sant-Marta, Ferrol, Betanzos, Vigo (on a rock near Tuy), Porte-Novo, Padron, &c.

The kingdom of Galicia has an archbishopric, Sant-Jago; four bishoprics, Tuy, Orense, Mondoñedo, and Lugo; five cathedral chapters, five collegiate chapters, several abbeys of Benedictines and Bernardines, two commanderies of religious orders, 3,683 parishes, ninety-eight religious houses, thirty hospitals, one asylum, one captain-general, fifteen military governors, one commandant for the province of Tuy, one intendant of the army and of the province, one department of the royal navy, one captain-general of the marine, one intendant of the navy, a royal audience, a university, five colleges for the instruction of youth, seven cities,

seventy-

seventy-four towns, 3,434 villages, upwards of forty ports, 2,640 parish priests, 1,043 parish curates, 6,742 secular priests, 2,394 monks, 600 nuns, 13,800 nobles, 966 advocates and writers, about 4,500 students, 18,900 servants; and the total of the population is estimated at 1,345,810 souls.

To go from New Castile to San-Jago, or Saint Jago de Compostella, there is a post road from Madrid which has thirty-seven stages, and is a hundred and eight leagues in length.

In going from Old Castile to Sant-Jago, we cross the whole kingdom of Leon from east to west, entering it by Villa-Martin, a little town, fourteen leagues from Burgos; two leagues from that we come to Carrion de los Condes, and eight leagues farther to Sahagun, which is half way from Maussilla; this last place is four leagues from Leon; from Leon we go to Astorga, Ponferrada, Cacabelos, and lastly, to Villafranca, the frontier of Galicia.

In going from the south of Leon, we proceed to Astorga, and take the road to Coruña as far as Lugo, which is twenty-three leagues from Sant-Jago.

Road from Astorga, in the kingdom of Leon, to Lugo in Galicia, Sant-Jago, or Saint James of Compostella, 49 leagues.

From Astorga to Avezo	6 leagues.
Pon Ferrada, (a little town)	4
Villa Franca, (frontiers of Leon, a little town)	4
Herrerias, (a little town)	5

Fonfria,

Fonfria, (a village)	8 leagues.
Gallejos, (a village)	5
Lugo, (a town)	4
San Jago de Compostella.	13

This road is frequented by an infinite number of muleteers, and at certain times a great many Galician workmen. On leaving Astorga we go through the villages *mauregates;* on holidays the women are dressed out in all their finery; and the young people dance with castanets to the music of a sort of bagpipe. The language of these countries is a patois, or peculiar dialect, in which a corruption of Arabic is introduced. The country is cultivated in detached parts, and the road is bad enough; we cross the mountains, the tops of which are covered with snow. Avezo is a village with a wretched *posada*, which seems designed only for muleteers; we get however good fish and wine. We cross a rivulet at Molina-Seca; the country has some plantations, corn, hay, and vines.

Ponferrada, situated at the confluence of two rivers, is a little town, formerly fortified. Here are the ruins of a castle, which commanded the passage of Fuen Sevalon. Leaving this we cross a large stony plain, where we find fields sown with grain, and a thick wood of oak; we proceed to Campo-Narraia, and enter on a mountainous district; the cultivated lands are enclosed with hedges; these are meadows, vineyards, and arable lands; the road is bad; but after passing over

over Cacabelos, the country becomes agreeable, and appears productive. We arrive at Villa Franca: this town is near the river Valcarse, and surrounded on all sides by mountains, which form the pleasant vale in which it is situated; it is on the road to Galicia. After quitting the highway the road becomes fatiguing; but an agreeable picturesque landscape of a country well watered by a meandering river compensates for it; all the villages are built with stone. We every where see beautiful chesnut trees.

After passing Herrerias, we climb steep rocks, go through a Puerto, and come to the village of Cebrero, on the summit of the mountains, whence we descend into the kingdom of Galicia, and crossing some villages, arrive at that of Fonfrias; we continue to descend till we come to Gallejos, where the *posada* is called Meson real, because it was established by the government. In general the first glimpse convinces us that the farms of Galicia are carefully attended to: we find beautiful enclosures, well planted, green and rich pastures, fields of all sorts of tillage, forests of chesnuts and other trees, and a great quantity of cattle all the way from Lugo.

Lugo, *Lucus Augusti*, a very ancient town, which was in the time of the Romans the centre of one of those jurisdictions which were named *conventus*. At present it is the see of a bishop suffragan to Sant-Jago, and worth 1550l. sterling. It is situated

situated on an eminence, near the banks of the Miño, thirteen leagues from its source. Here several councils have been held, amongst others one in 564, to regulate the limits of the bishoprics of Galicia and of Portugal. It is at most three miles in circumference; but the streets are tolerably handsome and well paved. There are twelve squares, of which two are large, and two middling, three fountains, and five gates. The walls are in good repair: the town contains a cathedral, several churches, amongst others two beautiful parish churches and convents, the bishop's palace, that othe collegiate or consistorial, and a college, a hospital, and an asylum; out of the town there is another hospital. The bridge on which we pass the Miño is in the suburbs. The civil administration is composed of an alcalde mayor, a regidor, and several district alcaldes, or alcaldes de Barios.

The cathedral is a very ancient building of Gothic architecture, to which they have added a modern portal. It is supposed that Lugo has more than 4,600 inhabitants. They work up wools in this town, but not enough to send out of the country.

There are in its territory a number of thermal springs, temperate and boiling. Wheat, barley, rye, and maize, are produced in the environs; and many large flocks are to be seen. Trout, salmon, and lampries, are in the Miño.

From Lugo to Sant-Jago is thirteen leagues.

Leaving

Leaving Lugo, we find some beautiful avenues of trees, go over some steep hills, and proceed through woods of chesnut trees, and some passes between mountains. We meet with the same kind of cultivation, the same productions, the same sort of fields, and numerous flocks*.

Compostella, or Sant Jago, Saint James of Compostella, (Brigantium). This is the capital of Galicia, the see of an archbishop, and the principal place of residence of the celebrated order of the knights of Saint James, who possess eighty-seven commanderies, and a revenue of upwards of 200,000 ducats of gold. The revenue of the archbishopric is estimated at 25,000l. The country around it is situated in a peninsula, formed by the rivers of Tambra and Ulla, which render the plain and all the environs rich and pleasant. The town is built upon a hill, and the little river Saria runs at the foot of it.

Clergy. Compostella ranks as a city; it contains an archbishopric, a cathedral chapter, where there are seven dignitaries, who have the title of cardinal-priests, like those of Rome, four parish churches in the town, and eight in the suburbs; and six convents.

Public Establishments. An university founded in 1522, four colleges, four hospitals, and a handsome asylum for young orphans.

Administration. The administration is formed of a military

* An account of other roads which lead to Compostella, and their particulars, will be found hereinafter.

and

and civil governor, an alcalde-mayor for administering justice, and a royal court of law.

Streets and Squares. In this capital, there are handsome, but ill paved streets, four squares, the principal of which is tolerably handsome, and a number of fountains and wells.

Population. Its population, according to the last calculation, is from 11,500 to 12,000 inhabitants.

Public Edifices. The cathedral, though heavy, is of a handsome Gothic architecture, noble, and impressive. It is magnificent in the inside, and contains twenty-three chapels, amongst which, we remark that of Saint James, lighted only by the cupola of the dome, which is very high. In it is the statue of Saint James, of massive gold, two feet high. In the chapel of the relics, not only the front of the altar, and the frame work above, are of massive silver, as well as the tabernacle, but all the shrines for the relics are of silver gilt, ornamented with a profusion of diamonds, and placed upon small slabs, the supporters of which are silver. There are two columns to the right and left of the altar, which support a canopy, and the whole is covered with plates of silver. About a thousand wax candles are lighted in this chapel every night. Let the reader conceive from this, if he can, an idea of the fairy appearance of this place, produced by the reflexion of such a number of lights on those masses of gold and silver, carved in every way, and covered with diamonds, precious stones, and pearls. The eye is dazzled, but soon turns with complacence upon a multitude of pious men, who day and night are seen kneeling here, the difference of whose clothes show that they come from different catholic countries of Europe. It has been remarked, that about the middle of the eighteenth century, the number of them was much diminished. Several Spanish, French, and English authors, each according to his own opinion, have given an account of the discovery which was made of the body of Saint James; we shall here only say, that it happened in 808, and the church became an archbishopric in 1123. Its treasury is very rich, sovereigns, kings,

kings, and popes having contributed to augment it. There is at Compostella a hospital, well endowed, for the reception of poor pilgrims. It is composed of two large square courts, with beautiful fountains playing in the middle, and piazzas all round of free-stone, which are supported by grand pillars of the same stone, and all made of a single block.

The French pilgrims have a chapel in the cathedral, which was formerly well supported by some kings of France. Louis the Young, the seventh of that name, and also some kings of Aragon, and Navarre, through piety, mixed with the poorest pilgrims.

The other religious edifices are spacious, several of them have an antique and venerable air; but the convent of Saint Martin, and its library are generally remarked by travellers, as also the cloister, the architecture of which is very regular, and of the Doric order.

Commerce and Manufactures. There are a number of merchants in this town, and eight great houses, which trade in all the principal articles of importation, and exportation. There is a manufactory of silk stockings, three of hats, one of paper, and three tan yards.

In this territory, which is generally damp, we find corn, vegetables, excellent poultry, good fruit, tolerable wine, and fish of different kinds; the provisions in this town are abundant, and not dear.

Road from Lugo to Corunna, 14 leagues.

From Lugo (a town) to	
Bamonte, (a village)	4 leagues.
The Posada of Castillano,	4
Betanzos, (a town)	3
Corunna, (a town and harbour)	3

On leaving Lugo for Corunna, we see the aqueduct which conveys the water into the town. The

road is handsome, and the country well cultivated until we come to Bamonte; there we find some heaths and places covered with broom. The road becomes uneven; yet on both sides there are very fine fields of corn, some trees, and pastures covered with cattle; if the traveller pleases, he may stop at the Posada of Castillano, which is very well attended. The road here presents different kinds of culture, among others that of the vine, and we arrive at Betanzos.

Betanzos, *(Flavium Brigantium)* is situated upon the side of a hill, at the foot of which runs the rivar Mandeo, which rises a little above that of the Ulla, and falls into the gulph, or rather the bay of Ferrol, opposite the harbour of Corunna. Betanzos has only one street, and not much of the appearance of a town, though the Spaniards still give it that title. It is at the bottom of the *Portus Magnus*, or the grand harbour, called by the ancients Adrobicum. As the oxen and sheep are very well fed in this district, there is excellent mutton and beef; we can also procure very good fish.

After quitting this villa, we pass by a bridge, over an arm of the sea, or rather the mouth of the river which we before saw at Betanzos, and enter upon the great road, which is very handsome, and leads to Corunna.

Corunna. This town is to the north-west of Lugo, and has a famous harbour; it is situated in a peninsula

peninsula at the entrance of the bay, which runs into the land as far as Betanzos. The town of Corunna is divided into two parts, one of which is modern, and the other ancient, and are distinguished by the names of new town, and old or lower town; the latter is called Pexaria or Pescaria, and is placed upon a small tongue of land, which is encompassed by the sea almost up to the high town, which is joined to it by walls.

The harbour is in the form of a crescent; at the two points are the castles of Sainte-Claire, and Saint Martin, which defend it, and a little island which shelters it from the north wind. All travellers have mentioned the ancient tower which excites admiration from its height, and its strong and solid walls. The Galicians declare that it was built by Hercules, whose name it still bears; this is to attribute it to the Phœnician merchants who frequented this coast; but a Roman inscription has been found near this tower, which ascribes it to the god Mars. If it is really the work of the Phœnicians, as its antiquity and the tradition lead us to believe, this account may be reconciled by supposing that the Romans, wishing to preserve this monument, and in gratitude for their victory over the Carthaginians, who sprung from the Phœnicians, consecrated it to their tutelary deity. It is also said that this tower was called Columna, whence by corruption came Corunna.

The new town is enclosed by walls, on the

declivity of a mountain, and defended by a citadel. Its streets are narrow, and ill paved; in the lower town they are broader, and better kept. Upon the whole, the interior of Corunna has no handsome edifices; but it has an excellent harbour, with a very handsome and convenient quay, which extends the length of the anchorage. The west side is entirely occupied by forts, batteries, troops, and signal posts to secure it from a surprise. The entrance of the harbour is defended by the forts Saint Amaro and Saint Antonio; the latter is placed upon a steep rock, which overlooks at once the harbour and part of the road, and also serves for a state prison.

Corunna has four parish churches, namely; in the old town, Saint James and Saint Mary; in the high town, Saint Nicholas and Saint George; four convents, six chapels or oratories, two hospitals, one for sailors, the Royal Hospital, and another for private persons. In the lower town there is nothing but foreign commerce carried on. There are three squares in it, that of Saint Carlos, that of the Palace, and that of the Market. There are naval and artillery schools, a royal arsenal, a storehouse for artillery ammunition, an armory, a powder magazine, an aqueduct, &c.

Population. The population is four thousand inhabitants, including those of the suburbs, but excepting the transient sailors and the garrison, which is sometimes very numerous.

Administration. This town is the residence of a captain general,

general, an intendant of the province, and the seat of a royal audience, and of the supreme tribunal of Galicia. The staff is composed of a military governor for the town, a king's lieutenant, a major, and two aide-majors. The citadel has the same staff. There are besides a port-captain, an accountant, and an auditor of war. In the civil government are to be included a solicitor-general, an alcalde mayor, and several regidors.

Commerce. In consequence of the commerce of Corunna being considerable, the king has established here a consulate, and commercial tribunal, with a school of commerce. The royal tribunal of commerce is composed of a president, fourteen judges, and two assistants. The small tribunal, or where causes first commence, consists of a president, three judges, and a secretary.

There are fifty eight registered merchants in this place, and it is the residence of foreign consuls. There are several manufactories, some for printed calicoes, some for table linen for the royal family. There are three for hats, one of which is for fine hats, employing one hundred and fifty people, who make from twenty one to twenty two thousand hats, which are sent into the interior of Spain. One of lace, two of combs, and one rope walk, which employs seventy workmen, and where cables of one hundred and twenty to one hundred and sixty fathoms are made.

Upon a very high mountain, a league from the harbour, is raised a light house, which is seen at least twenty leagues at sea, to enable ships to discover the land-fall of Cape Ortegal. All letters are sent from Corunna for the Spanish foreign possessions. The first day of every month a packet sails for New Spain, the Canaries, Cuba, Porto-Rico, and touches at Vera Cruz. The fifteenth of every other month, a packet boat sails for Buenos Ayres, Trinidada, the Havanna, and Peru, as far as Lima, touching at Monte-Video. Another packet sails in company with it, with the letters to Porto Bello, Panama, New Granada, Santa Fe de Bogota, and the northern part of Peru.

Road

Road from Sant Jago to Corunna, 10 leagues.

From Sant Jago de Compostella to	
Carral,	4 leagues.
Paulo,	3
Corunna, (a town and harbour)	3

The direct road from Sant Jago to Corunna is a very beautiful one. At Carral we cross a small river over a long bridge; the country is covered with hills, which we ascend and descend, and the prospect of which is not unpleasing. We arrive at Corunna by a very extended suburb that runs along the creek which serves for a harbour. The appearance of the town has at first nothing remarkable, but its tout ensemble is most picturesque; we view at once the harbour, the castles or forts, the road, and a great extent of sea.

In arriving at Corunna by sea, we enjoy an equally beautiful view; upon the right of the bay we see the tower of Hercules, the castles or forts, and the town; on the left, a light house, Cape Prior towards the entrance of Ferrol, and a chain of mountains through which the mouths of some rivers open.

Road from Corunna to Ferrol, $9\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.

From Corunna to	
Betanzos,	3 leagues.
Cavañas,	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Ferrol,	3

We

We leave Corunna by its suburb, which extends along the bottom of the bay, and come to a little river which flows into it. This country affords cheerful prospects; we alternately view well cultivated hills, a high chain of mountains covered with wood, which bounds the horizon, and the river, which is very beautiful at high tide. Thus we arrive at Betanzos*. From this villa to Cavanñas, the country continues to be mountainous, as also from Cavannas, to Ferrol. For the last three leagues we have a view of cape Prior, which forms the entrance of Ferrol, and we overlook a vast part of the ocean. The extent of the prospect is immense. As we approach Ferrol, we travel along the bay; but we do not perceive the town until we arrive at the summit of the mountain, on the other side of which it is situated.

We can also go from Corunna to Ferrol in a boat.

Ferrol, a town and harbour for the royal navy, in the *Pontus Magnus*, to the north-north-east of Corunna, and ten leagues from Cabo Ortegal, has been, since the middle of the eighteenth century, one of the most famous maritime places in Europe, and one of the best in Spain. Previous to the year 1752, Ferrol was only a kind of hamlet inhabited by the sailors of coasting vessels, and fishermen; but a town has been raised, built

* See the account of it page 434.

upon

upon a regular plan, the population of which has always been increasing. The harbour is very safe, being protected on every side from the winds; it is surrounded by redoubts, mounting five cannon on each front, and four on each side; the whole is connected by an intrenchment and a parapet, which mask the interior works.

Population. This town has only one parish, and a convent of the Seraphic order, yet it has a considerable population. It is calculated at about 8000 inhabitants, and, according to some authors, there have been 20,000 above that number; but it must be remembered that it was then in time of war, and that the sailors and troops ready to embark were included in the calculation. The settled inhabitants of Ferrol can only be considered as its population, and this town does not make any grand commercial speculation. In fact, it contains a great number of persons attached to the navy and the harbour. There are two hospitals in it, one for the inhabitants, and the other for soldiers and sailors.

Edifices. The edifices in which the naval and military government of Ferrol is carried on are extremely handsome. There is a school for midshipmen, which is magnificently built; an arsenal, the handsomest in the kingdom; a machine for hammering copper to sheath vessels; and a rope-walk very well attended. The naval barracks are large, handsome, and commodious, and capable of containing 6000 men. The number of sailors of this department stationed upon the coasts of Galicia and Biscay, is 18,000. There is a handsome dock-yard, where the French and the English have alternately been employed.

This place is at present the first arsenal of the royal navy of Spain. Ferdinand VI, the father of Charles III, ordered it to be erected in consequence of the information given to him respecting it by the marquis Ensenada, then minister.

The

The position of the harbour is extremely strong; for ships to go from it into the sea, must, for the distance of a league, file off one by one, and pass along a shore defended by forts, and which, in case of necessity, may be dammed up with piles, while on the land side it may be easily defended in case of a disembarkation. Art and nature have conspired to make it impregnable. To lay a regular siege would be almost impossible; the nature of the soil does not admit of trenches being opened; and to force the entrance of the harbour would be equally difficult, this being lined with strong batteries, and the mole being itself well provided with heavy artillery.

The bason for the fleet is immense; each ship has a separate warehouse, where the tackle, rigging, and all the spare stores are marked and placed in the greatest order. The *presidiario* is composed of six hundred galley slaves, who are employed in the most laborious works of the harbour. Two castles, that of St. Philip, and that of the Palma, defend the approach of the coast between Corunna and Ferrol; the road goes between them. In short the government have spared nothing to render this place the most complete and considerable naval establishment in the world; neither money nor pains have been spared, and every thing bears the stamp of magnificence, which the Spanish government display in things useful to the state.

Ferrol, being more a military than a civil place, has only an alcalde mayor, and some alcaldes of districts, to attend to the police of the town; but it has a military commandant, a governor, an intendant, a complete and numerous staff, who serve for the fortifications, the harbour, and the garrison, which is always very strong. As the port of Ferrol is intended entirely for the royal navy, general commerce and all foreign merchant ships are excluded; only coasting vessels and Spanish ships which bring articles of necessity, are admitted. There are a number of fountains of excellent water in the environs of the town, and river and sea fish in abundance. As to manufactories, there is only one, which is for sail-cloth.

Road

Road from Sant Jago to Tuy, by Vigo, 17¼ leagues.

From Sant Jago to	
Ponte Vedra, (a town)	9¼ leagues.
Lullo, (a village)	2
Vigo, (a town and harbour)	1
Tuy, (a frontier town upon the confines of Portugal)	4¼

A large road, extremely handsome, and kept in good repair, leads from Sant Jago to Vigo. It is difficult to form an idea of the beauty of this road. A well cultivated country, hills covered with vines and woods, fresh meadows, intersected by brooks, bordered by fruit trees, an abundance of rye and maize, are the objects that the eye rests upon all the way to Vigo. As we approach Ponte Vedra, the ocean terminates the cheerful picture which surrounds us.

Ponte Vedra, *(Pons Vetus)* is a town agreeably situated upon a rising ground, from whence the view extends on one side over the sea, and on the other over an amphitheatre of hills, covered with vines. The little river Vedra bathes the walls o this town, very near the Loris, which flows to the north-east, and both of them empty themselves into a kind of bay, the cove of which is to the west, three quarters of a mile from Ponte Vedra. There is a very beautiful bridge. There are two parishes, several chapels, and five convents in the interior of the town, a hospital out of it, and an ancient

ancient house of Jesuits, which is very well built. The population consists of about 8000 persons. There are some beautiful walks round the town. Formerly it had a considerable trade in pilchards; a fish which was abundant upon this coast; it is perhaps so still, but this branch of exportation has been neglected, nor is it easy to guess why the inhabitants have relinquished this source of ease and affluence. There is a French inn at Ponte Vedra.

The great road terminates at the village of Lullo, in the bay of Vigo, along which we travel for a league before we reach the town.

Vigo. This town is built upon a rock, situated in a gulph or bay, which is one of the largest, deepest, and safest in the peninsula; it has simply a wall, with a fort flanked with four bastions, very little capable of resistance, and an old castle projecting into the sea, which is still less so. This town has three parish churches, one of which is collegiate, two convents, a consistorial house, and a hospital; its population amounts to 2,500 inhabitants. Its harbour is spacious and excellent, but little frequented. Vigo is the residence of the governor of the province of Tuy, who has a staff; the castle which defends the road has a separate commandant. Besides these, a port-captain, and a provincial auditor reside at Vigo. The commerce of Vigo, like that of Ponte Vedra, consists of a coasting trade only; the industrious Catalans have engrossed the trade; they bring here wines and other merchandise,

chandise, and take away pilchards, tunnies, &c. in return. There are thirty houses employed in these two branches, and only six in the commerce with America. There are two manufactories of hats at Vigo, two of soap, and one of leather. The hats are sent to America.

The road from Vigo to Tuy is three leagues, but it crosses the mountains, and can only be travelled on horseback. In approaching this town we meet with lagoons, which almost completely surround it; the exhalations which arise from them, it is said, render the air unwholesome. But except the lagoons, the country presents a charming picture, from the variety of the productions which embellish it. Vines, lemon, and orange trees, are blended with meadows, which are very productive from the quantity of cattle that are fattened on them.

Tuy, a very ancient town, the capital of the small province of that name, which forms part of the kingdom of Galicia, is built upon a small plain on the top of an eminence, at the foot of which runs the river Miño, and at a short distance from its mouth. Pliny gives it the epithet of Castellum, which shows that it was even then fortified. It is so now, and is the frontier of Spain, on the north-north-west side of Portugal, according to the treaty of 1668, which terminated the difference between the two courts. It has good ramparts, a citadel furnished with a great deal of artillery, and a garrison. Tuy is opposite, and in front of Valencia,

cia, a Portuguese fortified town, situated also upon a height, and on the other side of the river; these two towns are close enough to batter each other with cannon. Tuy is the general rendezvous of the militia of the province of Galicia. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to Sant Jago de Compostella; with a revenue of 5,408l. 6s. 8d. per annum; the bishop is both spiritual and temporal lord. The town is well built; most of the courts of the houses are planted with trees; the streets are regular and well paved; there are beautiful promenades, and the principal square is handsome. It has three gates, three squares, three public fountains, and three castles or forts for the defence of its approaches. It has a cathedral church, an episcopal palace, a chapter of canons, a seminary, one parish church, several convents, two hospitals, and a population of almost four thousand persons. The military administration is conducted by a governor and staff, and there is a royal audience for the civil department. The governor general of the province of Tuy resides at Vigo. As to commerce, the inhabitants do not show any disposition for it, and in short, there is none except a kind of contraband trade, which they carry on with the Portuguese, and some manufactories of household linens, which are sold in the environs.

The coast between Tuy and Ponte Vedra, going north by west, is very pleasant, and is very little out of the way from the roads that we have been describing.

describing. We go from Tuy to Bayona, distant nearly two leagues, and four from Ponte Vedra: it is situated upon a small bay above the mouth of the Miño; it has a well built collegiate and parochial church, a convent of Franciscans, a hospital, &c. and some traces of edifices, which prove that it has been a considerable place; its harbour is commodious, and is defended by a castle, which has a governor, a major, and a garrison. The inhabitants employ themselves in fishing, which procures them a comfortable subsistence. The land is very fertile, being watered by a great number of excellent brooks and fountains; all sorts of fruits and vegetables are found here. The entrance of the bay of Bayona, which is formed by Cape Silleyro, and mount Perro, makes part of the Gulph of Vigo, in which are the Islas de Seyas-de-Bayona and Estelas, which the ancients call *Isles of the Gods*. To the east is the little capital town of the county of Gondamar, and to the south, the town, harbour, and fort of Guardia.

Redondillo is at the bottom of the Gulph of Vigo, between the mouths of two little rivers, and defended by a small fort, in good condition; the view extends over the peninsula of Cangas and San Fernando, where the best fish are caught; amongst others, the besugos, the pilchard, and the anchovy.

Several fine roads proceed from the maritime towns in the west of Galicia, and all meet at Orense,

Orense, where they join the grand road to Madrid, which crosses the kingdom of Leon.

Road from Tuy to Orense, 13 leagues.

From Tuy to	
Codesas,	$2\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.
Franqueyra,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Ribadavia, (a town)	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Orense, (a town)	$4\frac{1}{2}$

By this road we travel along the river Miño, and the frontiers of Portugal, as far as Franqueyra; this country is mountainous and woody, and presents a picturesque aspect. At Franqueyra we pass the Avia, which falls into the Miño at Ribadavia, and thence we travel along the left bank of the Miño to Orense. The country we pass through is mountainous throughout.

Ribadavia. This little town, which has the title of County, is situated at the confluence of the rivers Miño and Avia; a very good wine is produced in the country about it: Thomas de Lemos, a great theologian, was born here.

Road from Vigo to Orense, 14 leagues.

From Vigo to	
Porriño,	$2\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.
Puente de Aras,	2
Franqueyra,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
To Orense, as above	7

There is much more variety in this road, and it is much pleasanter than the preceding; it is equally mountainous,

mountainous, but the soil being better, there seems a more industrious cultivation here.

Road from Ponte Vedra to Orense, 14 leagues.

From Ponte Vedra to	
Cerdedo,	5 leagues.
Boberas,	4
Maside, (a small town)	2
Orense,	3

This road is nearly of a similar nature to that which goes from Vigo. We travel over well cultivated hills; vines are very numerous, yield a great deal, and produce a wine, which, though not equal to that of La Mancha, is nevertheless of a good quality; we do not fall in again with the Miño until we come to Orense. Cleanliness and plenty of provisions must not be expected in the inns on any of these roads.

Road from Saint Jago to Orense, 14½ leagues.

From Saint James of Compostella to	
Castro Vite;	3 leagues.
Gesta,	4
Cea, (a small town)	4½
Orense, (a town)	3½

The same sites, the same prospects are found on this road, as in the preceding; there are some rich hills, and some delightful valleys, one of which leads to Orense.

Orense,

Orense, Auria, *Aquæ Calidæ*. This town, which had the rank of city, as being the see of a bishop, is situated at the foot of a fine mountain, upon the left bank of the Miño, which passes by it, augmented by the river Sil. The revenue of the bishop is 1,041l 13s. 4d. sterling; in the time of the Gothic princes, he was suffragan to the archbishop of Braga, in Portugal; but after the invasion of the Moors, he became dependant on the archbishop of Compostella. Its hot springs were famous in ancient times; it is from them that the Romans called it *Aquæ Calidæ*, or town of hot springs; it is said that they give a part of the town and of the country about it remarkable temperature*. This town is small, but airy, and tolerably well built; its streets are straight, and its squares regular. It has a cathedral and parish church, a chapter, of which the clergy alone is composed of sixty-three members, of whom twelve are dignitaries, eighteen canons, and the rest prebendary priests and chaplains; besides twelve inferior ministers, who are not included amongst the members of the chapter. There are also two convents of monks; one that belonged to the ancient Jesuits; two chapels, a house of instruction for girls, a hospital for the sick poor, and an asylum. The population is calculated at two thousand three hundred persons. Though the revenues of the

* See the natural history of Galicia, page 460.

bishopric are inconsiderable, the bishop, like all the prelates of Spain, employs the greatest part of it in doing good in his diocese; besides which, he was known, during the revolution, to feed, lodge, and clothe upwards of three hundred banished or emigrant French priests. The civil administration of Orense is similar to that of the other towns of Galicia. The bridge is a most remarkable one: it has only one arch, and that is so high that a ship can pass under it. The plain of Orense is beautiful, pleasant, and fertile; there is plenty of excellent grapes and good fruits in it.

We shall now notice the road, called the road of Madrid, which goes from Orense to the frontier of the kingdom of Leon.

Road from Orense to Requejo, the frontier of the kingdoms of Galicia and Leon, 24 leagues.

From Orense to	
Alloriz,	4 leagues.
Abavides,	3
Verin,	3
Navallo,	4
Canizo,	3
Luvian,	3½
Requejo,	3½

In this road, on leaving Orense, we find more plains than in the other parts of Galicia; agriculture appears to be much attended to here; the cultivation of maize begins to be neglected, and

wheat and rye replace it; there are also several vineyards, and the wine is very plentiful. The cellars are not in this country as they are every where else, in the houses of individuals; but are near villages: vaults are made under ground, and each proprietor deposits his wine in them with as much security as if it were in his own house under lock and key. These cellars, out of the settlements or villages, are not guarded by any watchman; scarcely are the doors of them shut, and it is not without some admiration we learn that there is no instance of a theft being committed on the property in this manner delivered over, as we may say, to the public faith.

There are tin mines in the mountains which we leave to the right, not far from the towns of Monterrey and Verin, between which flows the river Tamaga.

Requejo is the last village of Galicia, and is upon the point of the angles formed by the frontiers of this kingdom with that of Portugal, near Braganza, and that of Leon, near Armazende.

Road from Lugo to Mondoñedo, 9 leagues.

From Lugo, a town, to Bendia,	3 leagues
Reygosa,	3
Mondoñedo (a town)	3

The whole of this road lies across mountains, which are a branch of those, that separate

the Asturias, and the kingdom of Leon. Between the mountains are valleys presenting fertile pastures, covered with horses and numerous flocks that climb up and graze upon the mountains.

Mondoñedo. This town lies twenty-five leagues north-east of Sant-Jago, and a similar distance west of Oviedo, surrounded by mountains; it stands at the bottom of a hill, at the entrance of a cheerful and fertile valley, and in the midst of several springs, fountains, and brooks: the two rivers Sisto and Ruzos separate it from its suburbs. Mondoñedo is the see of a bishop, suffragan to Compostella, and which was formerly at Ribadeo. The town, which is tolerably large, is surrounded by walls, and has five gates and two bridges, which communicate with the suburbs and the road. The houses are tolerably built, and of good stone; the streets are rather narrow, but regular; the grand square is watered by a fountain of the finest water, and there are many other fountains which cool and cleanse the streets. The salubrity of the air is remarkable. The total population is 5,600 persons.

In Mondoñedo there are seven churches, including the cathedral and the convents, one chapter of canons, one seminary, one oratory, and two hospitals. The bishop is both spiritual and temporal lord of it, notwithstanding which his revenue is not considerable.

The civil administration is the same as in other towns

towns that have no military government. This city is defended by the castle of Castro Oro, which is raised above it, out of its walls, and upon the mountain; it is covered with batteries on the side towards the sea, which is some leagues distant from it. The river Miño rises at a little distance to the north of this town.

The Sea-Side Road.

There is a road from Corunna and Ferrol to Asturias and Biscay, running almost all the way by the sea shore, and which is called the Sea-side Road. It is at present impassable except by mules, and is even then very dangerous. As it is intended for commerce, it passes by all the ports on the coast of Cantabria. Without doubt the enormous expences that would attend the making of a high road for this communication, have prevented the government from undertaking it. It would, however, be of the greatest utility to the different provinces through which it would pass, by the vent that it would open for merchandize, which is now conveyed with a great deal of trouble, and is often damaged by the length of the road in a very mountainous country, where storms are frequent, and where there are several rivers and torrents, most of which it is necessary to ford. This sea-side road runs in Galicia as far as Ribadeo.

Ribadeo. This little town is almost nine leagues east

east by north of Mondoñedo; it has the honorary title of county. It is built in the form of an amphitheatre, upon the declivity of a rock; the high part overlooks the country, and the lower part communicates with the harbour, which is tolerably handsome, and very good. Though the town is not fortified, it appears well defended by its position, which is upon the eastern bank, and at the mouth of the river Eo, or Rio Miranda. Ribadeo is the frontier of Galicia, which that river separates from the Asturia of Oviedo.

In travelling along the Sea-side Road, from Corunna to Ribadeo, we come to Cabo Ortegal, Cape Ortegal, the etymology of which is an abbreviation of *nort-de-Galicia*. This is the extreme point of Spain, or the most advanced to the north of this coast; it forms a section between the Cantabrian sea and the Atlantic ocean; there is a small town of its name, thirteen leagues from Corunna. On the east, and seven leagues from Ortegal, is Vivero, (Bivero) a little town upon a steep mountain; at the bottom passes the river Bivero, called also Landrova, the mouth of which forms a spacious harbour; from Vivero to Ribadeo is nine leagues.

On the coast between Bayona and Corunna, besides the harbours of which we have given a description, there are a number of others, as far as *Cabo Finis-Terræ*, Cape Finisterre, or *Celticum Promontorium*, a famous promontory, called *Artabrum*

tabrum by the ancients, and by some *Nerium*; near this place is a town of that name, and farther on that of Muros, upon the north bank of a small gulph, formed by the mouth of the Tambra; on the other side is Noya and its fertile plain: there is here one of the beautiful dock yards of Galicia for the construction of ships.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT RELATIVE PARTICULARLY TO GALICIA.

Population. The population of the kingdom of Galicia is, considering the extent of the country, the most considerable of Spain. It is estimated at a million and a half of inhabitants; but when we make inquiries in the province itself, we find it amount to two millions. By the returns made in 1788, the number amounted to nearly 1,350,000 inhabitants, to which must be added, about 100,000 persons who annually emigrate, and for some time, often for years, and some of whom never return. Some hire themselves as labourers, others become servants or porters, and others again enlist in the army or in the marine, and are sent to America. It is a fact, that at certain seasons, 60,000 persons leave this province to work on the lands in several provinces of Spain, particularly in the two Castiles, where they are employed to get in the harvests; about 30,000 go for the same purpose to Portugal. This is not, however, as some authors have declared, because the Galicians are very poor, nor because the peasants are in want of subsistence; but it is because they are desirous of augmenting their resources; and, in this respect, the Galicians and the Asturians may be aptly compared to the Auvergnats and Limousins, who go to Paris to earn money as labourers and porters, which they accumulate by their savings to give to their families. The Castilian and Portuguese peasants are slower or

less

less active; when, therefore, the body of Galicians, who generally come to their assistance, disappoint them, the harvests and vintages, however abundant they may be, become worth very little, as from the bad manner in which they gather them, part of these important productions are trodden under foot. At Madrid and other considerable towns in Spain, a great number of the servants are Galicians and Asturians; they are preferred for their fidelity and obedience; they are prudent, and of tried honesty. The porters and water-carriers in Andalusia, at Madrid, &c. and even at Lisbon, are Galicians.

The Galician who serves either his master, or the public, or in the army, is contented to appear a slave; which has given rise to the haughty Castilian's contemptuous proverb: *he sido tratado como si fuera un Galego.* "I am treated as if I were a Galician." But in every country of the world, there are always unjust prejudices from province to province; the Galician is not submissive from meanness; it is from goodness, and from the fear of displeasing; and it is from his desire of being well treated, that he is often, on the contrary, ill treated. His character is less pliant and more distinguished in his own country than when he is in another.

Agriculture. The kingdom of Galicia is mountainous, and contains few large plains: it has three different temperatures in its different districts; that of the mountains, that of the valleys, and that of the coast. The air by the sea-side is mild and gentle; on the south-west it is warm, dry, and pleasant; and on the north-east it is cold, damp, and rainy; but it is every where healthy. The climate of Galicia is generally considered as mild upon the coast, and cold in the interior, exposed to winds and heavy rains, which, however, admits of exceptions. It is true that this is the part of Spain where it rains most, where the atmosphere is thickest, and the sky most cloudy; but it is, notwithstanding, an excellent and beautiful country, productive, and enriched by nature. There are a great many more trees in Galicia than in the kingdom of Leon, particularly a large quantity of oak, walnut, chesnut

trees,

trees, and other lofty woods of different kinds. Wheat, barley, rye, and oats, which are not very abundant in Spain, grow here, as also clover, and other excellent forage. Each farmer keeps flocks in proportion to the extent of the land he possesses or cultivates. As the Galician is laborious, he experiences nothing of that kind of wretchedness so common, though perhaps too generally attributed to the other inhabitants of the peninsula. In fact, the principal beauty of the kingdom of Galicia, some parts of the soil of which are not very productive, is owing to the industry of its inhabitants. They fatten a number of cattle, and raise some good horses and mules in their pastures; numerous flocks of sheep and goats are seen upon the ridges of the mountains; maize, flax, and hemp are cultivated in the valleys, and upon the hills there are a great many vineyards: all these are in abundance. This country likewise affords oranges, lemons, a great many excellent fruits, pulse, and culinary herbs.

The land about Orense, its plain, and the soil of Monterrey, abound in vines, chesnuts, grains, hemp, pulse, fruits, &c. and the air is wholesome. The countries about Tuy, Rozamonde, and Redondillo, are fertile, beautiful, and well kept; they bear orange and lemon trees, vines, mulberry trees, flowers, maize, good vegetables, flax, &c. The meadows are covered with fine flocks. The environs of Ponte-Vedra, of the rivers Ulla and Saria, as far as El-Padron, are abundantly productive of corn, rye, maize, flax, hemp, pulse, vegetables, excellent fruits, &c.; as are also the environs of Bayona, Vigo, &c. where the wines are very good, and where a number of cattle is fed in fine meadows. In the country of Sant-Jago, and its plains, as well as upon the banks of the Tambra; and from Muros to Cape Finisterre, though the soil is naturally fertile, the climate foggy, and the air moist; and though at Compostella it is said to rain two-thirds of the year, yet they turn their lands to great account; they raise maize, rye, and good vegetables, and breed a great deal of fine poultry. The triangular and widely extended country of which Lugo,

Lugo, Betanzos, and Mondoñedo form the points, produces maize, rice, rye, barley, wheat, oats, vegetables, hemp, flax, chesnuts, apples, &c. The air is cold, but healthy. Comarca de Lemos, a little province and county of Galicia, has a vast plain to the east of Miño, which produces every kind of provisions; there are beautiful fields which yield very good corn, orchards bearing capital fruits, and vineyards from which excellent wine is made. The county of Monte-Rei, and the lands about the town of that name, are very fertile in all kinds of productions, and the fields are covered with vineyards, and very fine flax.

Manufactures, Industry, and Commerce. The Galicians do not apply much either to mechanical arts or to commerce; not that they are very idle, but they do not work much at their own houses, because if they are tolerably easy in their circumstances, they have every thing in abundance; and if they are straitened, they are content with little. There are, however, some manufactories in Galicia. In the province of Lugo woollen stuffs, hosiery, and coarse cloths are made. At Corunna and Ferrol there are rope-walks, and manufactories of sail-cloth, which supply a great quantity for the navy. There are manufactories of printed calicoes. They would be more flourishing if they were better attended to, and the sale of the articles would be of greater extent. They likewise make tolerably good table linen. The linen made at Tuy and its environs is generally coarse, but wears well; some of it is fine: this branch of commerce would undoubtedly be attended with success if it were encouraged, as the cultivation of flax is very well understood, and very thriving in Galicia; as is also that of hemp: neither of them is so fine as those of the southern parts, but they bleach better and more easily. In the territory of Montforté, in the county of Lemos, there are manufactories of silk which produce a considerable revenue; mulberries are not much cultivated; if plantations of them were formed, they would flourish here; and a great many Spaniards think that Galicia would abound in silk. There are manufactories of

hats,

hats, which have a great sale, and of many other articles of use to the people of the country. Nevertheless, as to manufactures, Galicia is the least industrious part of Spain; but its coasts are so extended, and furnish such resources, that this natural industry they afford is preferable to their mechanical and artificial industry. Fish is an immense article: the sea, which surrounds more than the half of this kingdom, and the multitude of rivers which fall into the sea, supply the country with prodigious quantities of all kinds. The principal are, the *bezugos*, or hog-fish, some of which weigh upwards of two pounds; it has no bones, and is taken during the months of November and December; it is sent quite fresh into Castile and the kingdom of Leon; salmon, sardin herrings of an excellent quality, shad, trout, lampreys, skate, eels of all kinds, &c. &c.

As to commerce, Galicia exports only a small part of its productions, while, on the contrary, it receives a great many of those of the neighbouring provinces; the cattle which it produces, and the fish, are both sent into some of the provinces of Spain, and its salt provisions are exported to foreign countries. A considerable quantity of cloth is made here, part of which, nearly 1,900,000 varas of Castile, or about 1,122,000 French ells, is sent into the kingdom of Leon, the two Castiles, Madrid, Andalusia, and even into Portugal. These three branches of commerce are almost sufficient to pay the balance of the interior commerce of this province with the neighbouring provinces. Into these they also send several other productions of their manufactories, namely, table linen, skins, hides, and leather, hats, tapes, and about 25,000 pairs of knit stockings; hence results an exportation, which, for the interior of Galicia, exceeds the importation, and turns to its advantage; it likewise sells some thousand quintals of wool, and some of its excellent wines; lastly, it trades in cattle, mules, and horses. The importations from the English, French, and Dutch are received at the port of Vigo, and the exportations are sent from the port of Corunna, from which

likewise

likewise Galicia communicates with America, whither it sends soap, skins, leather, and furriery, table-cloths, napkins, and knit stockings; these are calculated at 50,000 pair, and the cloths at 850,000 varas annually; it receives in return cocoa, logwood, sugar, and other colonial productions. In time of peace there have been 120,000 quintals of sugar landed at Corunna from the Havanna.

Natural History. The kingdom of Galicia had a great reputation for valuable mines, which its mountains must have contained; it is said to have had mines very rich in gold and silver. Dictionaries and geographical works mention them, as if they still existed: even history declares, that in ancient times, the labourers were continually stopped in their work by large clods of earth, which they opened, and took from them masses of gold, some of which weighed half a pound. This tradition would appear to be nothing more than an allegorical fiction, if we did not know that the Romans procured a great quantity of silver from Galicia. However that may be, mines of silver are also said to have been found in the centre of these mountains, which are shaded by oaks and chesnut trees. But at present we are better acquainted with the mines of copper, lead, and tin, of this country. There are also white marble and jasper between Corunna and Betanzos, and likewise marcassite, vitriol, sulphur, &c. Besides these, the same mountains furnish capital timber for building ships.

Galicia abounds in mineral waters, amongst which there are two cold springs, well known and frequented; the one at Camondes, a village in the territory of Bugarin, near Puente a Reas; the other a quarter of a league from Bejo, a village a league from El-Padron, and five from Sant-Jago: this is chalybeate. There is a great number of thermal waters: 1st, the Caldas de Cuntis, five leagues from Sant-Jago, where there are baths: 2d, the Caldas de Reyes, seven leagues from Sant-Jago, near the parish church of the village; these are used to bathe in as well as to drink: 3d, at Bande, a hamlet in the territory of Ribero, (Rivero) where there are baths in very bad condition; they

they are used to drink, and as a bath; the water of them is very hot: 4th, at Viana, near the Puebla de Sanabria; these are only good to drink: 5th, at Lugo; the spring is on the side of the bridge of that town, where there are baths very much neglected: 6th, at Orense; the waters are near the town, and are very warm; there are baths here which were very much frequented by the Romans: 7th, at Bertun, a hamlet eight leagues from Corunna; here are baths in bad condition; they are small, too narrow, and open: at Cortegada, five leagues from Orense, where there are four springs, distinguished by the names of Fuente de la Piedra, Fuente del baño del Campo, Fuente del Hierro, Fuente del baño del Monte; that is to say, stony spring, chalybeate spring, &c.: 9th, at Beran, in the territory of Ribero, a league from Ribadavia, in the province of Tuy; there are five springs, a little more than a quarter of a mile from the village, which have baths; their temperature is almost cold; indeed so much so, that frequently one cannot bathe without shivering.

One of the phenomena which are attributed to these waters is particularly manifest at Orense; that part of the town which is at the foot of the mountain experiences the rigours of winter, while that which is on the side of the plain enjoys the mildness of spring, in consequence of a great number of thermal waters that warm the air by their vapours.

There is also near the little province called Comarca de Lemos, a wonderful spring, situated upon the mountain of Cebret: though it is twenty leagues from the sea, and considerably raised above the level of it, it is observed to flow and ebb with it; besides which it is intermitting, its water being sometimes as cold as ice, and at others extremely warm; and the warmer it becomes, the more copious it is. This spring is called Louzana, and is found at the source of the river Loriz or Lours.

The woods, the forests, and the narrow passes of the mountains of Galicia, were formerly infested with bears, wolves, foxes, wild asses, and a great number of birds of prey; at present

present we find in them roebucks, deer, hinds, stags, wild boars, and a very great quantity of game. A fine breed of asses is preserved, hogs of a good kind, and a great quantity of poultry.

Character, Manners, Genius, and Language of the Galicians. The Callaici were the oldest inhabitants of Galicia. Those people employed themselves in nothing but war and hunting; and such as were not strong enough for that kind of life; occupied themselves in fishing. Their wives ploughed the land, sowed, gathered the harvest, and took care of their families. When they lay-in, their husbands took to their beds in their stead; a custom as ridiculous as absurd.

The modern Galicians do not preserve the wildness of those primitive natives, but merely a distaste to what is called in general civilization. We find in their mountains only simple and pure manners, a quiet and hospitable people, without any idea of luxury.

The Galicians are large, strong, very muscular, and robust; they easily support fatigue. The women are fair, tolerably handsome, with black hair and eyes, fine teeth, and regular but not very expressive features. The men, women, and children, go bare-foot. As in Biscay and the Asturias, this kingdom is entirely composed of the *Christianos viejos* (old Christians), who have never intermarried with converted Jews or Moors.

The Galicians, like the Asturians, very frequently quit their fire sides, to seek at a distance the means of fortune, or to acquire a greater degree of ease; they are attached to religion, and faithful to the king. Serious, grave, free, sober, and prudent, they lead a melancholy life, and keep little company. In other respects they distinguish themselves by their probity and courage.

The Galicians furnish a great number of soldiers for the army. Every year in the month of October the militia is assembled, and the young men are taken for it from the age of fifteen years. The peasants are seen running with pleasure to the place of assembling, delighted to see themselves armed, and treated as *cavalleros, nobles soldados del rei.* They are naturally

naturally disposed to arms; the inhabitants of the county of Montforte are remarked for this, as well as those of Lemos, which is watered by the little river Cabe, and the capital town of which is situated upon a steep and lofty mountain. This town is reputed to have been founded by emigrant Greeks; and what supports this opinion is the vivacity, wit, and bravery of the inhabitants of this canton.

The Galicians were the first poets of Spain. Before the descent of the Romans, they composed and sung verses, some traditions of which remain in their ancient language, yet they made little progress in this art.

The present language of Galicia is a mixture of the ancient Castilian of the time of Alphonso the Wise, and of Portuguese, with several expressions which it has retained of the ancient Roman language.

THE

THE KINGDOM OF LEON.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE KINGDOM OF LEON.

THE kingdom of Leon is situated towards the north-west of Spain, and is inclosed between Estremadura, Old Castile, Galicia, and Portugal; its form is a kind of irregular long rectangular figure. Its mean length from north to south is estimated at about fifty-two leagues; and its mean breadth from east to west about thirty leagues. This is the country which was formerly inhabited by the Vettones, mentioned by Strabo. It is bounded on the east by Old Castile; on the south-east, and south, by Estremadura; on the west, by the provinces of Beyra and Tralos-Montes in Portugal, and by Galicia; and, lastly, on the north by the Asturias. The town of Leon (*Legio*) is the capital, and has given its name to this country, which was a long time a separate monarchy; but its crown was united with that of Castile in 1069,

yet

yet without losing the title of kingdom. Its territory is mountainous, but much less so than Biscay, the Asturias, Old Castile, and Estremadura, the mountains of which extend some of their branches into it. It contains a great number of beautiful fields, good pastures, and large fertile valleys, which produce a quantity of grain, wheat, barley, &c. wine, and excellent flax, but both of these in small quantities; vegetables, and good fruits. Its mountains are covered with trees of different kinds, and we find in them iron and copper mines, mineral waters, &c. A great quantity of famous mules are bred here, and a good number of sheep. The celebrated river Duero divides this country into two almost equal parts. This kingdom contains a great number of beautiful valleys, amongst which we distinguish those of Mediana or los Arcuellos, and that of Batuecas, of which a separate article will be made.

The kingdom of Leon contains six bishoprics: those of Leon, Salamanca, Palencia, Zamora, Astorga, and Ciudad-Rodrigo; six cathedral chapters, nine collegiate chapters, 2,460 parishes, as well rectories as vicarages; 196 convents, twenty-three hospitals, five asylums, two military governments, four intendancies of provinces, a celebrated university, four superior colleges, twenty-five colleges of all classes, six cities, 539 towns or boroughs, 2,005 villages or settlements, of which

seventy-six, formerly inhabited, are at present are deserted.

Several of these mountains are remarkable; but those are particularly distinguished which form part of the Sierras of Pico and Occa, formerly mount Idubeda; the former extends from the east of the southern point of the kingdom of Leon to the west of the southern point of Old Castile; the latter comes from the north-by-east point of Old Castile, and extends a little way into the kingdom of Leon, at the south point of the east.

This country is watered by a great number of rivers, amongst which the Sil, the Buroia, the Sabor, the Baeza, the Arago, the Xero, the Pisuerga, the Alagon, the Agueda, the Cea, the Exla, the Tuerta, the Obrega, and the Bernesga, almost all rise in Leon and upon its confines; the Duero in Spanish, or the Douro in Portuguese, which runs from the east of the frontiers of Aragon and Navarre, crosses Leon and Portugal, where it throws itself into the Atlantic ocean; the Carrion, which flows from the mountains that form the limits, crosses Old Castile and Leon, and meanders before it falls into the Arlanzon, which flows into the Duero; the Eresma, which enters Leon at Macheda, and afterwards unites with the Duero and the Tormes, called in the country Rio de Salamanca, which rises near the Sierra de Tablada, in Old Castile, runs along the Sierra d'Avila, enters with it

it into Leon, and then loses itself in the Duero, opposite Bemposta upon the Portuguese frontiers.

The principal towns of the kingdom of Leon are, on the north of the Duero, Leon, Astorga, Zamora, Toro, Palencia, Medina-del-Rio-Seco, Tor-de-Sillas, Villa Pando, Dueñas, Marsilla, Villa-Franca, and Benavente; on the south of the Duero, Salamanca, Ciudad-Rodrigo, Alva-de-Tormes, Peña-Aranda, Peña-de-Francia, Carpio, Medina del Campo, and Ledema near Los-Baños.

When the Gothic king Roderic was defeated by the Moors in the battle of Xeres de la Frontera, the only asylums left for the fugitives were a part of Galicia and Asturia, Lower Biscay, and the country at the foot of the Pyrenees; to these they with difficulty retired; but, soon recovered from the terror into which such a disaster had thrown them, their courage revived at the voice of a hero who had not abandoned them; this was prince Pelagius, the descendant of king Chindazuinte. He collected as many as he could of the dispersed christians, and putting himself at their head, attacked the Moors, who attempted to penetrate into the Asturias. In 717, he obtained a memorable victory over them, and made himself master of Oviedo, of which he was acknowledged king. Having made regulations for this little state, he gradually acquired new subjects, and again attacking the Moors, he retook from them the town of Leon, and some others.

Thus was the foundation of this new kingdom laid, although Pelagius and his successors only took the title of kings of Oviedo or of the Asturias, till Ordogno II, who took the title of king of Leon in 915. The kingdom of Leon passed in the year 1030, to Ferdinand, surnamed the Great, then king of Castile, by his wife.

These kings of Oviedo and Leon might soon have been able to return to the southern confines of Spain, and to drive away the enemies of the Christian name almost entirely from the the peninsula, if they had known how to take advantage of the disagreements which arose among the Moors; but the violent blood of the ancient Goths still flowed in the veins of these kings, and their families were a prey to the most cruel divisions, attended with assassinations, usurpations, and revenge; their history, though often splendid by heroism, is too frequently tarnished by cruelty.

Road from Palencia to Leon, 21 leagues.

From Palencia to Vill-al-Cazar,		5 leagues.
Carrion de los Condes, (a town)		2
Sahagun, (a town)		6
The Porma, (a river and bridge)	}	5
Villarenta, (a village)	}	
Leon, (a city)		3

Palencia is a very ancient bishopric, suffragan to

to the mother church of Burgos. The bishop of Palencia enjoys a revenue of from 2,500l. to 2900l. and bears the title of count. This town is situated in a fertile territory, watered by the little river Carrion, on whose banks it stands, and the waters of which, after uniting with those of the Arlanzon, flow into the Pisuerga, and afterwards into the Duero. Palencia is near Old Castile, about forty-five leagues from Madrid, and twenty-one from Leon. Most of the edifices of this town are in the Gothic style, and the most remarkable is San-Antolin, a church built and dedicated to that saint, by king Sancho, after having escaped a great danger in hunting wild boars. At the beginning of the thirteenth century, this town was honoured with a university, the erection of which Rodrigo the bishop obtained from the king of Castile, Alphonso, VIII or IX, of that name; it was the first founded in christian Spain after the invasion of the Moors. In 1239 this university was removed to Salamanca by Ferdinand. Its district, called the Tierra de Campos, is remarkable for its fertility.

On quitting Palencia for Carrion, for seven leagues we travel over an almost level country. Before we come to Vill-al-Cazar, we cross the celebrated canal of Campos, which will produce infinite advantages to Castile; but we cannot foresee when. The project was put into execution in the reign of Ferdinand VI. The Marquis of Enseñada,

señada, then minister of the finances, was the person who began it. That part called the south was dug in 1753, in the priory of San Antonio de Becerrilejos, which belongs to the regular canons of Benevivere, a convent very near the town of Carrion. It was continued to be dug as far as the limits of Parades-de-Nava, the extent of which, including the windings of the canal, is six leagues. From Becerrilejos it passes by the villages of Usillos, Grijota, Villumbrales, and Becerril, stretching as far as the town of Parades. The other part of this canal, called the north, was soon begun to be dug, above the village of Barrio, as far as the town of Herrera-Pisuerga; it passes by Congosto and Nogales, and continues in the territory of the villages of Ventosa, Omos de Pisuerga, Naveros, San Lorente, Osorno, Osornillo, Lantadilla, Santillana, and Cabañar; whence it goes to the limits of Fromista. This part includes an extent of six leagues, counted from Fromista to Herrera. The land that must be opened for the junction of the two parts, the north and the south, is four leagues at most, and it must pass, in going beyond Fromista, through the territory of Pigna, Amayelas, Amusco, and Saint Cebrian, near the village of Ribas, descending to the convent of the Franciscans of Calahorra, situated upon the banks of the river Carrion, where the continuation of the two branches ought to be regulated. In both parts of the canal there are

some

some good stone works, such as the sluices by which the water is taken for the watering of Piralez; the bridge of Valdemudo, which we pass in coming from Las Montañas to Palencia and Carrion; the aqueduct in the territory of Ussillos; others at Grijota and Villumbrales, where there is a bridge; as also at Becerril. These structures are on the southern part of the canal. On that of the north there are the reservoirs of Herrera, a large dike which crosses the river Pesuerga; and other works of free-stone. The chief design is that it should pass by Palencia and Duenas, crossing that large plain as far as the Duero. It is likewise wished and determined, that another canal should be made from Segovia to the Duero, to be carried through various territories, amongst which are those of Hontanares, Olmedo, &c. This is an undertaking admirable for its utility, and which would furnish to Castile an easy conveyance by water for merchandise, and a more advantageous irrigation to a country which cannot have too much of it.

From Vill-al-Cazar de Sirga to Carrion, is two leagues, on a level and easy road.

Carrion, de los Condes, is a town advantageously situated on the river, which takes, or to which it gives its name. We see the remains of its walls, which were strong, particularly when it belonged to those famous counts, who were the lords of its territory. We are informed by tradition, that there was a time when it contained 12,000

12,000 inhabitants; it is at present reduced to a very small population, though there are nine parish churches, three convents of monks, and two of nuns in it. The monastery of San Zoil, very near the town, deserves to be visited; the cloister of it is handsome, but the church, which has only a nave, and that of the Doric order, is in a bad style. In the town, the church of the convent of Saint Claire has a tolerably handsome small front of the Corinthian order, and towards the entrance of the town, on the same side, is the antique church of Our Lady of Victory, where a grand festival is annually celebrated, in memory of the deliverance of a hundred young virgins, whom Mauregat the Usurper, as the chronicle says, had bound himself to deliver to the Moors. The story runs that a famous victory was obtained on the very place where the church is built, in consequence of which this tribute ceased. The counts of Carrion play a great part in the chronicles of Spain; it was in this lordship, that the famous duel took place between Diego and Ferdinand, both sons of count Gonzalo (or Gonzalez), and both sons-in-law of the Cid, who were obliged as well as their uncle Suero Gonzalez, by order of the king, to enter the lists against Pedro Bermudez, Martin Antobuez, and Nuño Bustez, who fought for the Cid and his daughters; the latter were victorious over the Gonzalez, who were punished for their misbehaviour to the daughters of the Cid. The whole court were present

present at this combat. The vanquished were declared traitors, and the county of Carrion became a dependence on the domains of the crown; this town enjoys considerable privileges which the kings have granted to it. The banks of the river, which runs to the west, are flat, and afford great facility for watering the garden grounds. The country about it presents every thing that can be wanted for the support of life; it bears wheat, and other corn; the vineyards produce an excellent wine; good vegetables, and flax are cultivated; the fishermen likewise furnish different sorts of fish, and plenty of game is found in its environs.

On leaving the territory of Carrion de los Condes, there are two roads to Leon; one to the right, which passes by the town of Saldagna, running along mountains, and turning to the north-west at Val-de-ra-Niego, near Cea. The other, which we here follow, proceeds to Sahagun.

After crossing the river Carrion over a well built bridge of nine large arches, and which is almost three hundred feet long by twenty-four broad, not including the parapets, at the distance of a league, we come to a handsome convent of regular canons of Saint Augustin, called Benevivere, which we leave on the right in proceeding to Sahagun. The church, which has a handsome appearance, contains a nave and two aisles. The whole of the country through which we pass is very fertile, and might be made to bear more abundantly,

dantly, according to the plans for watering this part of the land, and the frontiers of Leon and Castile. It has good pastures, corn, game, poultry, and fish. We pass through the villages of Calzadilla, Ledigos, and Terradillos.

Sahagun. This town is situated in a plain, on the eastern bank of the Sea, or Saha, six leagues from Carrion, and contains 4000 inhabitants. The remains of its ancient walls, and of the castle, are still to be seen. The foundation of the monastery of Sahagun is attributed to king Alphonso III. It has a convent of Franciscan monks, and one of Benedictine nuns; but what is most worthy of remark, is the royal abbey of the order of Saint Benedict, or Benedictines, the church of which is magnificent. The river Cea, or Sea rises among the mountains that border upon those which form the limits of Leon and the Asturias, and after crossing a great part of the province of Campos, throws itself into the Exla.

The villages that lie on the road between this town and Leon, a distance of eight leagues, are, Legartos, Reliejos, the little town of Mansiella, and Villa Rente, which is three leagues from Leon; but a great number of others are seen on both sides of the road. Near Villa Rente, we pass the bridge of the same name, which has eighteen arches, and is built over the river Porma.

Leon, *Legio*, the capital of the kingdom of that name, is a very ancient town, founded before the

reign

reign of Galba; it was called by the Romans *Legio Septima Germanica*, from the legion that bore that name being stationed there. This town is situated between the two sources of the Exla, which are called the rivers of Torio, and Bernesja. It is one of the most famous and most ancient episcopal sees in Spain, and possessed, in the time of the Gothic kings, the privilege of appealing immediately to Rome; thus he is suffragan to the archbishopric of Compostella, without being any way dependent on its jurisdiction; this bishopric possesses a revenue of 22,000 ducats. Its diocese contains eight hundred and twenty-three villages, eight hundred and eighty-three parishes, twenty-six convents of monks, eleven of nuns, collegiates, and hospitals. The number of the inhabitants of Leon must have been considerable at the time when its kings resided there till the thirteenth century; at present we grieve to see the marks of its ancient splendour, and to find so small a population. A great part of its walls are of green marble. It contains thirteen parish churches, one collegiate church, four convents of monks, five of nuns, and a number of hospitals, and hermitages: here are the royal houses of San-Isidoro, and San-Marcos of the order of Saint James; and a chapter of noble canonesses, not cloistered, but who take the vows.

This town was the first of any importance that the Christians retook from the Moors. Pelagius made himself master of it in the year 722, fortified it,

it, and also gave it protection; he built a good castle to defend the approaches. It had the honor of being the capital of the first catholic kingdom of Spain, and of being for three centuries after the invasion of the Arabs, the residence of the kings. The palace which the wife of Alphonso built here at the end of the twelfth century, is still to be seen.

Curious Edifices. The cathedral church of Leon surpasses in beauty the most admired in Spain. The inhabitants of this town have a proverb respecting their cathedral, which is, *Sevilla en grandeza, Toledo en riqueza, Compostela en fortaleza, Léon en sotileza.* In fact, this church is one of the most beautiful monuments of Gothic architecture that can be seen, and is truly worthy of its great fame for the admirable lightness of structure; its height, its boldness, its grand and just proportions concur to distinguish it, without saying any thing of its riches and the valuable deposits which it contains. The cathedral of Seville is very large; that of Toledo is rich; that of Compostella is spacious, distinguished by the solidity of its building, its riches, the bodies of St. James, and of several other saints; but that of Leon surpasses them all. As to the remains of holy and illustrious men that it contains, there are to be seen the tombs of thirty-seven kings and of one emperor, and the shrines of several saints, amongst which are those of St. Isidore and St. Vincent. In the ninth century, king Ferdinand obtained the body of St. Isidore from the Moorish king who governed Seville; it was carried with great ceremony to the town of Leon, and placed in a superb silver gilt shrine, on the altar of St. John the Baptist. The dignity of canon is rendered very important in Leon, from the kings of Castile being hereditary canons, members of the chapter, and holding that rank in the choir. The marquisses of Astorga likewise have this dignity, and may enjoy the rights and privileges attached to it when at Leon.

The

The Host has been continually exposed from the seventh century to the present time, in the choir of the canons of San-Isidore, in consequence of a celebrated council against the Arians in this place, and which was terminated in one of the churches of the town of Lugo. Alphonso V caused the tombs of the preceding kings to be placed in the cathedral of Leon.

There are some edifices which deserve attention. The hotel of the counts of Luna is large and handsome. The town-house has a good appearance, and its front is tolerably regular. In the number of decayed edifices the ancient palace of the kings may be mentioned, which stands close to the wall on the western side; it was turned into a cloth manufactory, which was afterwards neglected; there are now only a hundred and fifty looms at work. In the Foundling Hospital there are some looms for woollen works, and a very few for linen, which might, notwithstanding, be made advantageous to the country.

The palace of the Guzmans, which belongs to the duke of Oceda, is magnificent, and ornamented with a superb portal; its walls are very strong.

Among the gates of the town, there is one which was formerly a famous prison; at the bottom is the statue of king Don Pelagius, with an inscription.

The Place Mayor has a beautiful appearance; the buildings which surround it are uniform, and their front forms a square with the town-house, which is situated on one side of it. There are a number of other squares, and handsome fountains.

The monastery of the regular canons of Saint Augustin, is of tolerable architecture, as well as the royal convent of Saint Mark, which is near the suburbs.

Situation, Extent. A city so important as that of Leon, which has been the birth-place, the residence, and the burial-place of its monarchs, and which has some magnificence in its exterior, ought to be handsomer in its interior. It is deficient in cleanliness; almost every thing is thrown out of the windows; the pavement is filthy and detestable.

Environs of Leon. The town of Leon is surrounded with trees, and

and its plain might be still more fertilized by a good cultivation. The country about it is every where embellished, and has beautiful promenades, and broad and noble avenues of handsome trees. The rivers which we have mentioned, give life to the lands, and are full of fish. The Torio rises in the mountain of Piedrafita, eight leagues to the north; the Bernesja rises in the mountain of Paxarez, eleven leagues from Leon, also to the north; they unite on the south side, close to Leon, and fall into the Exla, not far from Marsilla, and which also receives the waters of the Villavente or the Poma, in the rich and fertile plain of Infanzones.

The country about Leon may be turned to the greatest advantage, as there is an abundance of water in it, which would not only procure for the city all the vegetables that are necessary, but also would produce enough to send a quantity to places where they are in want of them. In the villages of Rabanal, Nozedo, and Lillo, which are in the territory of this capital, there are quarries of grey marble. The corn harvests are not abundant in these environs, but to make up for it there are a great many good vegetables, fruits, flax, and meadows of a rich verdure, and which furnish excellent pastures: the inhabitants eat very little ox-beef, but the cow-beef and the veal are very good, and the sea-fish is brought from the ports of the Asturias.

Commerce and Manufactures. At Leon there are several manufactories for different woollen articles: stockings, hosiery, leather gloves, &c. are also made here.

Road from Leon to Astorga, 7 leagues.

From Leon to	
Trobajo,	$\frac{1}{2}$ league.
Sant-Nario,	$\frac{1}{2}$
Villa Dongos,	3
La Calzada,	2
San-Justo,	1

Astorga.

Astorga. A very ancient town, situated in a plain upon the banks of a small river. It is the see of a bishop, who was formerly suffragan to Braga, and has been so, for some time, to the archbishop of Compostella. This town is situated ten leagues from Leon: it stands upon a little eminence from which it looks over a beautiful and fertile country; part of its ancient walls is destroyed, part still remains in tolerable condition, but it must have had an impregnable fortress; the ruins of it, and those of the castle of the ancient marquisses of Astorga are now to be seen. In the town there are four parish churches, two chapels of ease, two convents for men, and for women: it is, however, not large, and its streets are very dirty; nor is it populous, though it was more so when it disputed the dignity of being the capital of the Asturias; but that was acquired by Oviedo, on its being decided that Astorga made part of the kingdom of Leon. It is only the chief place of a little marquisate. The cathedral attracts attention; it is Gothic, and so are the stalls in the choir. In the country belonging to it there is a lake called Sanabria, three miles long, and one and a half broad, through which the river Tuerto passes with such rapidity that it raises waves equal to those of the sea: a rock rises in the middle of the lake, on which the fine old castle of the counts of Benavente stands. This lake is the property of Saint Maria de Castagneta; it is full

full of fish, particularly trout, as is also the river Torto, which bathes the walls of Astorga.

Road from Palencia to Medina-del-Rio-Seco, 8 leagues.

From Palencia to	
Paradilla,	2 leagues.
Ampudia,	2
Palacios,	3
Medina-del-Rio-Seco, (a town)	1

The four leagues from Palencia to Ampudia is a kind of desert, in which there is not a single tree.

Ampudia contains about four hundred inhabitants. The collegiate church of their town is of Gothic architecture, but has nothing particular. From the small town of Ampudia to Placios is three leagues; on the left are the boroughs of Valoria-de-Alcor, and Montéalègre; and we go through a pass in the mountains near Villa-Nubla, and from Palacios to Medina is one league more, in the course of which we cross a stream that waters some good meadows.

Medina-del-Rio-Seco. This town is very ancient, and is situated in a plain, enlivened by the little river Sequillo. The streets are narrow, and ill paved. There are three parish churches, four convents, one of which is of nuns, an asylum of St. Juan de Dios for monks, and two hospitals well endowed.

endowed. Medina was formerly famous for its population, manufactories, and fairs, on which account it was surnamed Little India, in Spanish *India-Chica*. In 1520, Charles V erected it into a duchy for Fernando Henriquez, whose family were the descendants of Alphonso, king of Castile, and who, in a manner, inherited the office of high-admiral of the kingdom. It was in 1638 honoured with the title of city, by Philip IV. It is surrounded by mountains, and the air of it is very salubrious. Its population, which is said to have been 30,000 souls, is now reduced to the fourth of that number. There is nothing more to be seen of the castle, which must have been a strong one, than its ruins. The surrounding country abounds in corn, and wine.

Road from Medina-del-Rio-Seco to Tordesillas, 7 leagues.

From Medina-del-Rio-Seco to Castro-Monte,	2 leagues.
San-Pelaio,	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Torre-Lobaton,	$\frac{1}{2}$
Tordesillas,	3

In leaving Medina-del-Rio-Seco, we pass to Valverde, which is half a league, and from thence to Castro-Monta, a league and a half. To the right are Tordehamos, Villabragina, and Villagarcia. The road to San-Pelaio is of a mountainous nature; it is, in fact, a continuation of the

mountain, called Torozos, which extends to the left; the road continues sloping and passes between trees. At Torre-Lobaton, there is an antique castle in tolerable preservation. From thence to Tordesillas is three leagues, which appear long from being tedious, and from some part of the country being uninhabited.

Torre-de-Sillas *(Turris Sillæ)*, vulgarly called Tordesillas, is situated on the right bank of the Duero, at the end of a very handsome bridge. It is six leagues west of Valladolid. It is one of the most ancient, and most celebrated towns of the kingdom of Leon. It is handsome, well built, and stands on an agreeable site. All the environs are covered with trees, and fine vineyards. The bridge has ten arches; it was built in the time of the kings of Leon; in the middle of it there is a large tower with battlements. The produce of this country consists of corn, oats, and wine.

Clergy. There are in this town six parishes, one convent of monks, and two of nuns.

Establishments. There is one hospital well attended to.

Population. The population is estimated at four thousand persons.

Edifices. The exterior and interior of the parish church of San-Antolin is of Gothic architecture.

The parish church of Santa-Maria is spacious, tolerably regularly built, and of good architecture.

Among the convents, those of the nuns of Saint-John, and the royal convent of St. Claire are worthy of notice.

There is a royal palace, in which queen Joanna, mother of Charles

Charles V, ended her miserable days, under a derangement of mind.

The river greatly contributes to render the situation of this town delightful; the southern bank called la Vega, presents a fertile plain, tolerably covered with trees, and in some parts it is sandy; the opposite bank is barren, on account of the rocks with which it abounds. A little higher, at the confluence of the Pisuerga and Duero, is the country of the small town Simancas, celebrated for a white wine very much esteemed.

Road from Torre-de-Sillas to Medina-del-Campo, 4 leagues.

From Tordesillas to	
Rueda, (a town)	2 leagues.
Medina-del-Campo,	2

From Tordesillas to Medina-del-Campo is four leagues; we cross the Duero, and half way come to the small town of Rueda, having passed that of Seca, which we leave to the left. After crossing a large stream, we arrive at Medina-del-Campo. The whole of the country through which we have now passed is a kind of plain, almost entirely planted with vines, as well as the neighbouring places. The wine of this country is sent to the Asturias, Montaña, and even Biscay.

Medina-del-Campo. *(Methymna Campestris.)* This very ancient town was formerly celebrated for the residence of several monarchs; some were born there, such as Ferdinand I, king of Aragon, and the emperor Ferdinand I; it was of course

more considerable than it is now: it was then commercial, and opulent. There are still three considerable fairs annually held here. It has very great privileges: it is free from all taxes, and the inhabitants have a right to fill all offices, both in the church and civil magistracy, without the interference of the pope or the king. The town is large; it has a handsome square, in the middle of which is a fountain ornamented with a statue of Neptune. It is said that Medina-del-Campo has contained 14,000 families; there are now only 1,000 in it. A kind of torrent divides it into two parts; this is the Zapardiel, which swells and sinks at times; in the last case, its water becomes putrid, and is injurious to the inhabitants by its unwholesomeness. Though the population has been considerably diminished, the ancient churches and convents are still remaining. There are eight parish churches, eight monasteries of monks, and eight cloisters of nuns. The old handsome house of the Jesuits is still to be seen. There is a hospital well endowed, and well kept. This town was the birthplace of the Jesuit P. Josef Acosta, and of the philosopher Gomesius Pereira.

Road from Astorga to Zamora and Toro, by Benavente 28 leagues.

From Astorga to	
Amotia,	5 leagues.
Benavente, (a town)	5

Saint-

Saint-Euphemia,	4 leagues.
Saint-Pedro de la Tarca,	5
Zamora, (a town)	2
Bamba,	3
Toro, (a town)	4

Benavente has the title of duchy. This town, situated on the river Esla, is of a middling size, and small population. There are but three thousand inhabitants, though there are nine parish churches, two convents, one abbey, three hospitals, &c. The churches are ancient and well built. The palace of the dukes is spacious, noble, and of a very ancient architecture; it belongs to the family of Pimentela, but has the appearance of being deserted. This town was formerly very lively, being the constant passage of pilgrims, who went by thousands into Galicia, and of Galicians who came, as labourers, to get in the harvests of Castile. As there were not lodgings for such multitudes, they slept in the church-yards, courts, and even in the streets. Not far from the town is a famous monastery of the order of St. Jérôme.

The country between Astorga and Benevente is sown with wheat and oats; trees are rare.

Between Benavente and Zamora, wheat, maize, and flax, are cultivated; there are many trees, principally poplars. Some old towers are seen at the tops of the Galician mountains, and particularly on the road from Baneza, near the river Orvigo, six good leagues from Benavente. As we approach

proach Zamora, we find the country more open and level.

Zamora, twenty-two leagues from Leon, is situated on the right bank of the Duero, to the east of the point which Portugal forms in the kingdom of Leon. The country is very fertile. There is a very handsome bridge here. The Moors having made themselves masters of this city, called it Medinato-Zamoratio, in Arabic, *The Town of the Turquoises,* on account of there being mines in the adjacent hills, where those stones were found: it is said that there are some still. In the eleventh century, Almanzor, the Saracen general, destroyed the whole of this town. It was rebuilt by Ferdinand and Alphonso, who founded churches and convents in it. San-Salvador, or St. Saviour, was built under Alphonso; he enriched it with large donations and many relics; among others he gave them the body of St. Ildefonso, who was bishop of Toledo in the seventh century.

Clergy. This town is the see of a bishop suffragan to Compostella, with a revenue of 200,000 reals.

It contains within its walls and faubourgs upwards of twenty parish churches, six monasteries, ten nunneries, three hospitals, and some oratories.

Situation, Extent. Its position is on an eminence, which commands the river; it was formerly fortified to protect it from the neighbouring Portuguese; the walls are still preserved; the houses are ancient, large, and decaying, and the streets narrow, which gives it a gloomy and melancholy appearance. There are ruins of a palace, and some barracks.

Its

Its form is a kind of long parallelogram. It is surrounded by a very fertile country. There is at Zamora an engineer school, which has turned out some officers of distinguished talents.

Environs of Zamora. There is in the territory of Zamora, a *partido* called Sajago, situated in an angle, formed by the branches of the rivers Esla and Duero, and terminating at their confluence; this *partido*, or district, contains several hamlets and villages. The country about Zamora abounds in good fruits and vineyards; there is very little corn, but a great many flocks are fed here, and there is a great quantity of game. There is very excellent fish in the Duero. In 1065 this town belonged to Doña Urraca, daughter of Ferdinand I, and the town of Toro to Doña Elvira, his youngest daughter.

Toro is situated in the country known by the name of Tra-lo-Duero. This town has fallen off a great deal from what it was formerly. It is also situated on the right bank of the Duero, and at the extremity of a spacious and rich plain. The town is very remarkable for being the place where the famous municipal laws of the state, found in the *Recopilation*, under the title of *Leyes-de-Toro*, were made. It is walled, and has several gates; the streets are tolerably handsome, but ill kept. There are twenty parish churches, twelve convents of monks and nuns respectively, and a royal hospital. It has a collegiate church, which was formerly a cathedral, the see of which was removed to Zamora; the church of the Dominicans; a large square, surrounded by porticos, and a handsome promenade. There is no other monument of the arts

arts here worth mentioning. The town contains 7,500 inhabitants.

Excellent wine and good fruits are produced on the hill of Tra-lo-Duero, which is about six leagues from the town of Torre-de-Sillas.

From this place to the confines of Portugal, we meet with several bridges over the Duero, and also over the Esla. There is one below Benavente, at near a league's distance, which has nineteen arches; and further on one of nine or ten; yet there are places where these rivers, at certain times, can be forded. It is the same with all rivers in Spain; sometimes they are torrents overflowing their banks, and sometimes little trickling rills, which leave the earth to dry up.

In the countries of Zamora, Toro, Tordesillas, Medina-del-Seco, and Del-Campo, all the use they make of the rivers is to turn fulling-mills, as in La Mancha and Castile; but they never use them for the more important purpose of watering the land. In certain parts the undulating nature of the ground indeed seems to oppose this, as it sometimes rises above the level of the water.

Road from the frontiers of Spanish Estremadura and of the kingdom of Leon, to Salamanca, 19½ leagues.

From Plasencia in Estremadura to	
Al-Villar, (a market town)	3 leagues.
Aldea-Nueva del Camino, (the frontiers)	3

Baños,

Baños,	3
La Calzada, (a village)	2
Val-Verde, (a town)	1½
Val-de la Casa,	1½
Los Palacios,	2
Al-Berrocal, de Salvatierra,	1½
Salamanca,	2

The greatest part of the road to Al-Villar is very good, but the first league is in bad condition: it is astonishing that the inhabitants of Plasencia have not had it repaired, or rather kept up, for, from all appearance, it must have been in a good state. Having travelled half a league, we go through a pass in the mountains, where there is an image of Nuestra Segnora del Puerto, which is held in great veneration. From this place we see the spot where the stone stood on which were inscribed the words *Saltus Ambracensis*. On this hill there are a considerable number of wild olive, oak, and other trees. The descent is in no better state than the ascent, though it is a royal road, and a great thoroughfare from Estremadura to Castile. The whole way to Baños is called the reverse of the Sierra, as, between this part and the Vega de Plasencia, there is a lofty chain of mountains which separates them. Al-Villar is an agreeable borough, surrounded with fruit trees in abundance, particularly chesnut; the water here is excellent. Medicinal herbs are found throughout the whole chain of these mountains. Between this borough and

Capara,

Capara, there are ruins of an ancient aqueduct, which probably served for conveying water from the mountains to the ancient town of Capara, situated at two leagues from Al-Villar. The advantageous situation of this last borough, and various inscriptions seen on some of the houses, plainly enough indicate that it was inhabited by the Romans.

The villages seen on the left, from the road, are Oliva, and one on the ancient site of Capara: the eye likewise follows from Peña de Francia, (the rock of France) the extensive chains of the mountains of Gamo, Los Angeles, and Gata, to Xalama, towards the frontiers of Portugal. By order of the king, a good road of communication was made over this mountainous and rough country to the towns and villages on the other side belonging to Spain, such as Serjas, Trevejo, St. Martin of Trevejo, Valverde, Navasfrias, and Navamiel, the name of which is given to the new road.

Between Villar and Aldea-Nueva-del-Camino, we see on the other side of the chain, to the right, the villages of Cabezavellosa, Casas-del-Monte, Segura and Gargantilla; and in the plain fertilized by the Ambroz, we see Zarieta, Granja, and Albadia; these villages are none of them far from the road.

Aldea-Nueva contains three hundred inhabitants. From the declivity of the mountain, where this village is situated, to its top, there is a wood of ches

nuts,

nuts, which commands the other villages in a similar situation, and which is a great resource to the poor. In entering Aldea-Nueva, there is a well built bridge, and another in leaving it; the latter is called the Maiden, and is over the Ambroz; further on is another over a brook, where the ancient highway passed; it is called Romanillos, and was made by the Romans; it is now given up and impassable, though very necessary in this canton. We meet with the Roman highway in many places from Aldea-del-Camino to Baños. To the left is the village of Crvas, situated on the side of one of the highest mountains of the canton, and which is covered with snow the whole year through; there is at Crvas a cloth manufactory, and some other branches of industry, which, added to the quantity of fruit trees which surround it, render this place the most important of the country.

Baños is situated on the hill of that name, which separates Old Castile from Estremadura. The whole of the surrounding country is covered with olives, chesnuts, and a great number of vineyards, which produce yearly 25,000 arobas of wine.

Baños. This place is tolerably lively; there are some cloth manufactories which give it a little trade. It does not contain quite three hundred families. The baths, which gave this town its name, are on the side towards the frontiers of Castile; they are hot, sulphureous, and very salutary for rheumatisms

tisms and other nervous complaints. In visiting Baños, we must not forget a part of a dike which is still remaining, and is on the extreme height of the hill; we also see on this spot some mile-stones, on one of which we decypher the numbers CXXXI, which no doubt expresses the number of miles from Merida to Vicus Cecilius, which may be supposed to be Baños, or to its site. From the ridge of the mountain, the descent is more difficult than the former; having arrived at the bottom we cross by a bridge the river Cuerpo de Hombre, which, directing its course towards the west, falls into the Alagon. To the right are the passes of the mountains, which, from Bejar, follow in succession, with different names: Piedra-Hita, Arenas, Puerto-del-Pico, the Palomera, San-Benito, Campo-Azalvaro, Guadarrama, Fuentiria, Buytrago, &c. and all being branches of the Sierra d' Avila and Sierra de Tablada, separate Estremadura and Leon from New and Old Castile. To the left is Monte-Mayor and Peña Caballera. The straits in the mountains on this side being a continuation of those of which we have just spoken, and which from Peña de Francia extend to the entrance of Portugal, separate this kingdom from Estremadura, and this last from Old Castile.

The village called Calzada (the Causeway) is well planned, for it is situated on the Roman highway, which we meet with at the entrance of the village, and follow in several places, in spite of the total

total neglect of it, and of the lapse of ages since it was made. Before we come to this place, we meet with some mile-stones that have lost their inscriptions; but further on at Valverde there are several on which they are preserved. After travelling to Val de la Casa, we cross a mountain covered with oak; soon after leave the mountains, and arrive at Los Palacios. From this place to Berrocal de Salvatierra, the road differs very little from the one we have passed, and does not change till we are at a considerable distance from Berrocal.

As soon as we see the towers of Salamanca, the eye, tired with the view of the mountains we are quitting, becomes fixed upon them; and the traveller, let his knowledge of Spanish literature be ever so little, feels an emotion at the sight of the steeples and edifices which rise above this town; a city famous for its university, and the illustrious men it has given to Spain. He calls to mind that Salamanca formerly received pupils from England, France, Germany, &c. and that it has produced the most able lawyers, politicians, historians, theologians, magistrates, and even ministers, of whom Spain may justly boast.

The situation of this town, in the form of an amphitheatre, on the banks of the Tormes, is picturesque; the river bathes a part of its walls, and waters its beautiful plain; it has a very handsome stone bridge, which is attributed to the Romans, and which

which has twenty-seven arches, in a length of about five hundred feet.

Salamanca *(Salamantica)*, thirty-four leagues to the north-east of Madrid, is, as has been shown, situated like several other towns of Spain, partly on a hill, and partly in the plain.

Clergy and Administration. This town is one of the most ancient bishoprics of Spain, suffragan to Compostella, with a revenue of 2,500l. sterling; and is one of the ecclesiastical jurisdictions. It has a royal administration, composed of a corrégidorat, a governor, an alcalde-mayor, common alcaldes, &c. It has a cathedral and collegiate church, composed of twenty-six canons; there are twenty-five parish churches, twenty convents of monks, eleven of nuns, a university, twenty-five private colleges, four great colleges, several hospitals and and penitentiary houses, chapels or oratories, hermitages, &c. There are in it magnificent churches, spacious convents, large buildings, squares, two of which are considerable, many fountains, and, in short, every thing that can contribute to the embellishment of a town. But it has a grave and serious appearance, no doubt necessary among such an immense number of scholars as were formerly assembled here.

Public Edifices. The cathedral is one of the handsomest of Spain; it is commanding, majestic, and of the Gothic style. The chief gate is finely executed. There are three entrances in its front; that in the middle of the portal has a statue of Our-Lady in the centre of it, and above are two demi-reliefs, representing the birth of Our Saviour, and the Adoration of the Kings. In the interior, the boldness of the roof, and the finish of the ornaments in sculpture are admirable. It has a superb and grand steeple, surrounded by a handsome, broad, and commodious gallery, where several people can walk abreast. By the side of this cathedral, whose cloister merits inspection,

inspection, there is another church, perhaps more ancient, to which we descend by some steps; it is very much frequented, and is held in great veneration on account of the miraculous Holy-Christ of battles which it contains. Before the cathedral is a large square, paved with broad slabs of square stones, and surrounded with thick pillars, about six feet high, connected by a strong iron chain, with openings for persons on foot.

There are in the town other very handsome convents, amongst which are the following:

That of St. Dominic, in which there are near two hundred monks. The church is large, well built, all of free-stone, ornamented with a handsome dome, well lighted, and adorned with a great many figures. Its front is Gothic, its nave spacious, and the chapels decorated with luxury and profusion. The ceiling of the choir is a painting in fresco by Palomino.

The convent of Saint Bernard is considerable; it has a remarkable staircase of great boldness, the steps of which, to the number of one hundred, appear as if they were sustained in the air; they are easily ascended; large gilt figures ornament the sides of the pillars.

The convent of Augustins. The front of the church of this convent chiefly attracts the attention of strangers; it is overburdened with ornaments, which make a great confusion. It is opposite to the Hotel of the duke of Alva, which appears deserted, but which still proves the opulence of its masters.

The ancient church of the Jesuits, now that of St. Marc. Near this church is the ancient college of the Fathers of the society of Jesus, a considerable building, and one of the most remarkable of Salamanca, as to its building and distribution: there is a seminary for thirty young ecclesiastics, who occupy part of the building; it contains a large painting by Bayeu, pupil to Mengs, representing the ceremony of this institution, which took place in 1778. The church has a handsome portal of the Corinthian order; it has been given

to

to a community of regular canons, under the name of San-Marcos.

The King's College. It was built in the reign of Philip II. The court, the galleries, and the columns of the Ionic order which decorate it, are admirable.

Colegios mayores de St. Bartolomé, is of the number of those great edifices which, in Salamanca, are admired for their mass. It was very old, and of an antique and severe style; being injured by time, it has been rebuilt, and ornamented with a modern front.

Almost all of the convents and colleges have libraries, and manuscripts more or less valuable.

The curiosity of a traveller will also lead him to visit the chapels of Talavegra and St. Barbara; in the former they celebrate mass according to the mozarabic rites; in the latter they confer with great ceremony the degrees of the university.

University. The building which contains it is one of the most considerable. The architecture of its principal portal shows that it was built in the fifteenth century. This portal has all the dignity becoming the place to which it belongs. It is ornamented with statues of Ferdinand and Isabella; above are the arms of the emperor, supported by a Hercules on each side. There are several other small figures on it, medals, arrows, &c. In the interior, we see the edifice called the Schools; it is very spacious, handsome, all of free-stone, and well distributed: it consists of two ranges of buildings, one of which is called the great schools. This has a large court, paved with slabs of hard stone, and surrounded by beautiful piazzas, supported by arcades; they lead to the different classes, and over the door of each school there is an inscription, expressive of what is taught in it. This edifice contains a hall, large enough to hold two thousand persons. Above the piazzas there is a good library, in which the books are secured by iron chains; it is ornamented with statues of illustrious

illustrious men, distinguished in the sciences. Under a part of the piazzas is a church for the schools, in which they every day say ten masses for the different classes, who are accompanied by their professors: their chief altar and pulpit are entirely gilt, and the arched roof, which is painted, represents the firmament and twelve constellations of the zodiac. Near the entrance of these schools is a large well built infirmary, in which the utmost possible care is taken of the sick scholars.

This university was established at Salamanca, in the year 1239, out of the ruins of that at Palencia, and there have been as many as eight thousand scholars in it, who came thither from every part of Spain, and seven thousand from the other countries of Europe.

They teach theology, the canon law, jurisprudence, the civil law, philosophy, eloquence, the classics, history, medicine, mathematics, the belles-lettres, surgery, anatomy, all languages, music, &c. &c. The college called that of the three languages, where Greek, Latin, and Hebrew are taught, adjoins the university.

The university has sixty-one professors, who have at their head a rector annually chosen by the *cathedraticos* of the first class, that is to say, the professors of theology; care is taken that both his knowledge and his reputation should be great: his privileges are considerable; there is no person above him, and in public assemblies his chair is always placed under a canopy. Next to him is the grand master of the classes, whose power and appointments are very distinguished; he always holds with them the dignity of a canon of the cathedral, and he has a revenue of eight thousand ducats: he nominates all the civil officers of the university, which is itself endowed with above 1,200,000 reals.

There are eighty endowed professors, the first eight of whom, doctors in theology, have each 1,000 crowns; these are the *cathedraticos*. The seventy-two other professors in the different sciences have no more than 6,000 reals, or 62*l.* 10*s.* sterling. They have besides a great number of can-

didates for the professorship who have no salary; they are called *pretendientes*; they wait for the vacancy of some chair: the famous cardinal and prime minister Ximenez had himself been one of these candidates. Of the eight professors in theology, four teach in the morning, and four in the evening. The hours are divided among the others, according to their classes, in which they discourse on whatever subject they think fit. The *pretendientes* assist the professors, supply their places in case of illness, and also teach every day.

There are besides twenty-five colleges, which have thirty collegians each, who live in common with the masters, and four collegios-mayors, or great colleges; the scholars are the most illustrious, and the children who are brought up here are of the greatest families of Spain. There are no more than seven of these colleges in Spain. One of the four established at Salamanca was founded by Fonseca, archbishop of Toledo.

The scholars of this university and of the colleges, and who are three thousand in number, are all, without exception, clad in black gowns like priests; their heads are shaved and covered with a cap; they are not permitted to wear a hat in the town unless it rains, and are subjected to a most regular life. In fine, they have very great privileges, are dependant only on their professors, and are under the jurisdiction of the rector.

After what has been said, one would think that Salamanca is a city of the first order, and that it was very populous and rich; in these particulars it is very much fallen off from what it was; there are about 3,400 families, not including the scholars, the members of the university and of the colleges, the priests, monks, nuns, and the officers of government. It is moreover full of merchants, and is inhabited by a tolerably numerous nobility.

Situation, Extent. The town is surrounded by a good wall; the public edifices are of different eras; the poorest of them are of the eighteenth century; the most curious are of the time of the kings of Castile and Leon, of that of Charles V, and others of the reigns of Philip II. and Philip III.

Streets,

Streets, Squares, and Promenades. The ground on which this town stands is uneven, and in passing through it we are obliged to ascend and descend. It would be very easy to render the streets cleaner, by establishing on the most elevated spot, a reservoir from which the waters might be spread from time to time, which would render the town cooler and healthier; the waters would flow the easier, as all the streets are sloping. The air circulates easily, on account of there being a great many squares, among the rest one that might be placed in the rank of the finest of Spain; it is a modern, large square, and of an elegant architecture. There is a portico all round it of ninety arcades on the ground floor; the houses are of three stories, ornamented each with a handsome balcony, which goes round it, that is to say, that each story has its balcony continued without interruption. In the archivoltes are placed medallions, containing the kings of Castile and Leon, down to Charles III, then all the illustrious warriors of Spain; among whom we distinguish the famous Bernard del Carpio. This uniform building is crowned above its entablature with balustrades. The town-house occupies one side, and several streets run from the others.

Environs. The country about this town is beautiful, fertile, and smiling. In leaving Salamanca by the gate of Tormes, we cross that river over the Roman bridge of which we have spoken. The river Tormes abounds in eels, barbel, and excellent trout.

Road from Salamanca to Avila on the frontiers of Old Castile, 21 leagues.

From Salamanca to	
Calvarrasa, (a village)	2 leagues.
Alva de Tormes, (a town)	2
Piedra-Hita, (a town)	7
Las Casas del Puerto,	2

Villatero,	1 league.
Santa-Maria del Arroyo,	3
Avila, in Old Castile	4

In leaving Salamanca for Alva de Tormes, we cross a small space of mountains covered with oaks, and soon after pass through another, almost a league in extent, and thus arrive at Calvarrasa, which is half way to Alva. After having discovered to the right the villages of Cabrajosa, and Pinilla, and to the left those of Santa Maria, Cabrerizos, and Oteros, we enter Alva de Tormes over a handsome bridge of twenty-six arches on the river Tormes, which runs close to the town.

Alva de Tormes is situated on the side of a hill. It gives name to a dukedom created in the fifteenth century by Henry, king of Castile, in favour of the house of Alvarez. Its population is middling; there are however several parish churches, three monasteries, and four nunneries. In the middle of this small town, is seen the palace or castle of the duke of Alva, so well known in the Low-Countries in the time of the civil wars. The apartments he occupied are still to be seen; upon the whole this building is in good preservation, considering its antiquity; its situation is charming; commanding the country through which the Tormes flows in its course towards Salamanca.

It is seven leagues from Alva to Piedra-Hita; this road crosses mountains covered with oak; it is narrow, and often rough. We pass the villages of

of Rodrigo, Val-de-Carros, Horrajo, Avarillo, le Collado, and Malpartida ; other villages are seen to the right and left. We also see a celebrated hermitage, called Nuestra-señora-de-Val-de-Ximena. We almost always travel amidst oaks, which however do not conceal from us the mountains in which are situated the passes of the Baños, Bejar, Arenas, Del-Pico, &c.

Piedra-Hita. This small town is situated at the foot of a mountain on the south side. The country of it is tolerably agreeable, and very famous for a palace built by the duke of Alva : though he meant it as a kind of retreat, he embellished it with taste : and the gardens of it are very handsome. The surrounding country is gay, and fertile. There are many good kitchen and fruit gardens in the town. There is one parish church, a Dominican convent, one of Dominican nuns, one of Carmelite nuns, and one house of *Béates*. The civil population is estimated at one hundred and fifty families.

From this town to Las Casas-del-Puerto is two leagues ; to the right we leave the villages of Del Sotillo, and San-Miguel-de-Corneja ; to the left those of Mesaguel, and Bonilla.

Las Casas-del-Puerto is on an elevated site, surrounded by a great many trees : there are fruits in abundance. From thence to Villa-Toro, is one league, through a charming woody country, full of shrubs and plants : to go through this pass we ascend

ascend and descend; but the declivities are easy. From Villa-Toro to Santa-Maria-del-Arroyo is three leagues; whilst travelling them we see to the left the villages of Poveda, Amavida, Muraña, Nuñes, and Guareña, and on a height of the chain of mountains, a convent of Augustins; to the right, the villages of Prado-Segura, Narros; la Torre, and Lacha, the village of Salobralejo is near Santa-Maria, and both are appendages of Muño-Galindo.

It is four leagues from Santa-Maria-del-Arroyo to Avila. The road lies through a plain. To the right, in a very cheerful valley, are the villages Munoechas, Aldea-del-Abad, Salobral and Fresno, el Merino, Aldea-del-Rey, and Gemunos; to the left, those of Padiernos, Munopepe, and Serrada.

Avila. See *Old Castile.*

Road from Salamanca to Medina del Rio Seco, 14 leagues.

From Salamanca to	
Moriscos,	$1\frac{1}{2}$ leagues.
Pitiegua,	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Pedroso, (a town)	1
Al-Fresno,	5
Del-Carpio,	$\frac{1}{2}$
Medina del Rio Seco,	$3\frac{1}{2}$

In a league and a half which we travel from Salamanca to Moriscos, there is nothing very pleasing,

pleasing, though still very near the town. In the two and a half from Moriscos to Pitiegua, the land becomes bare; it appears however good, and might be advantageous to the proprietors, if agriculture was not so much neglected. We leave to the right Caboza-Velloso, and to the left San-Christobal, Castellanos, Comecelles, Villa-Verda, and Pajarez.

From Pitigua to Pedroso, the land through which we travel for a league is not more attended to, or more productive, though it is good. In going from Pedroso, we cross a small stream, called Quarena; half way we cross it again; we then travel for a long league through a strait of mountains covered with oak, and fir trees, and enter a naked and tiresome plain: through the whole of this road to Al-Fresno we meet with no village. From this place to Carpio is only a mile and a half, and from thence to Medina del Rio Seco, three and a half. In these two intervals the ground is sandy, and stony. It would cost little to collect all these stones, lay them in a line, pack them up, and thus make a good beaten and more convenient road; it would not be impossible to border it with some fir plants, of which there are a tolerable number in the neighbourhood. We see at a distance the villages Canta-la-Piedra, and Madrigal, Villa-Nueva-de-los-Torres, Torrecilla-del-la-Orden, and further off Laejos, &c; we then arrive at Medina del Rio Seco.

(See the description of this town above.)

Road

Road from Salamanca to Ciudad-Rodrigo, 16 leagues.

From Salamanca to	
Calzadilla, (a village)	3 leagues.
Boveda de Castro, (or Sobeda)	3
Martin del Rio, (a village)	4
San-Spiritu, (a village)	2
Gitano, (a rock)	3
Ciudad-Rodrigo,	1

The road from Salamanca to Ciudad-Rodrigo is very bad, and the inns on it detestable. In all the environs of Salamanca there are dreadful roads, for which the inhabitants of the country do not seem much to care. We pass by Boadilla, a village, where in winter the traveller is in danger of being buried in mud. At Cazaldilla we cross the river Balmuza, over a vile bridge. At Martin-del-Rio, and San-Spiritu, villages of little importance, there are some ill built bridges: their land consists of nothing more than pastures and mountains; further on we pass over stony ground, muddy, and full of ruts. The whole country is neglected, though fit for cultivation, for growing trees, corn, hemp, and even flax. Notwithstanding many desert places, there are on this road a number of villages, such as Tejarez, Castejon, Calzada-Don-Diego, Guadilla, &c. We pass, on the road to San-Spiritu, some places planted with green, and common oak. The rock of Del-Gitano is the most frightful part of the

the road, and has long provoked the curses of the traveller, without being remedied.

Ciudad-Rodrigo and Roderícopolis. This town was built in the reign of Ferdinand II, about the thirteenth century, to replace that of Mirobriga, whose site it occupies. It was made a rampart against Portugal, and one of the three general rendezvous where the Spaniards assembled their army when they made war against the Portuguese; in 1706 however these last took it in four days; but it was retaken the following year. It is situated in a flat and tolerably beautiful country, which produces in abundance every thing that is necessary for that part adjacent to Estremadura. Its plains extend five leagues to the north, and are terminated by a chain of mountains, which are branches of those of Bejar, Peña de Francia and Gata.

Situation. Extent. Ciudad-Rodrigo is a fortified town, and the see of a suffragan bishop of Compostella. There are seven gates; it is well fortified, and the ditch which surrounds the walls has been dug anew; its streets are tolerably regular.

Population. It contains about 10,000 inhabitants.

Clergy. There is one cathedral, one collegiate church, six parish churches, five convents of monks, four of nuns, one seminary, and two hospitals.

Administration. It has a governor, and a civil administration, a garrison composed of infantry, cavalry, and invalids; they reside in fine old hotels that were deserted.

Public Edifices. The cathedral was built in the time of Ferdinand II, of Leon: the figure of Sanchez Benito, who was the architect, is to be seen in the cloister; the church is of the

the Gothic style, but without taste, as well as the two parts of the cloister which were built at the same time; the two other parts are modern, and by the architect Pedro Guemes, whose figure in sculpture is over one of the gates. The cathedral is not finished; the aisles do not meet behind the great chapel or chief altar. The great slab of the altar, and the chapel in which is the tomb of Pacheco, are remarkable. The stalls of the choir are like those of Plasencia. There are three gates to the chapel, it is ornamented with Corinthian columns; the gates and the tower are by Juan Sagarvinaga, architect and member of the academy of San-Fernando, who designed the plan of the seminary contiguous to the cathedral. The most distinguished piece of architecture is the chapel of Cerralvo, founded by cardinal Pacheco, archbishop of Burgos, and previously titular archdeacon of this church; it was begun in 1588; it is square, and its body is in the form of a cross: its exterior decoration is of the Doric order, and the interior of the Ionic, with pilasters, and a dome. This chapel is dedicated to St. Andrew, of whom there is a tolerably good picture, as also that of the four doctors of the church, which the cardinal brought from Rome; his tomb is in the chapel. The statues, the tabernacle, the slabs of the collateral altars, and those of the other chapels, are in good taste; they are of jasper and marble, and the entire building is of freestone.

The seminary was begun in 1765, and finished in 1769, by the care and at the expence of the bishop Don Cajetano Quadrillero, under the patronage of the king, who also furnished funds. They afterwards added another building larger than the first, in which there is a church, with vaulted roofs, and a cupola; its architecture is of the Doric order; the chief altar is in stucco, and of the Composite order. In 1775, this pious bishop had the satisfaction of consecrating this church, and of seeing the whole building finished. There are sixty scholars, among whom are some Portuguese.

Except the church of the Augustins, which is well built, and which is ornamented with five orders of architecture, and with

with regularity, there is no taste or rule of art in any of the churches.

In the faubourg, in the church of St. Francis, there is a handsome chapel, in which there is the tomb of a bishop of Zamora. In the other faubourg there is nothing remarkable: one half of the bridge which crosses the Agueda is antique, and the other modern. The castle, though of a common construction, is very strong. The wall which surrounds the town is weak; its platform is a agreeable promenade at all times, and commands the country.

On the Plaza-Mayor are three Roman columns on a triangular plinth; on the cornice are two inscriptions, also Roman, which mark the limits between Salamanca, Bletisa, and Augusto-Brigo, or Ciudad-Rodrigo. There is also another inscription of the time of Philip II, in handsome characters.

The river Agueda, whose source is near the mountain of Xalama, passes close to this town, running from the south to the north-west; after receiving, during its course, some streams, it throws itself into the Duero, near the town of Frexenada; on its borders, mixed with the common sand, are found grains of gold, which the inhabitants search for and separate.

The ancient Roman aqueduct is destroyed; but they have made another which conveys the water requisite for the town, and watering of the trees, a space of three leagues. There are also some fountains out of the walls, and in the extent of the diocese are some medicinal waters, copper, lead, iron, and even gold mines.

Environs. Three quarters of a league from the town is a convent of Norbertins, which was begun in 1590, by Francisco Martin, a monk of that order. The house is remarkable for the handsome rooms which are about the choir of the church; Juan Sagarvinaga finished it; he built the dome crosswise, and the great chapel. Juan de Mena, director of the academy of San-Fernando, is the sculptor of the monument of the Assumption on the slab of the altar; this last is decorated with columns of the Corinthian order, well executed,

and

and in white stone, as well as the other slabs which are in this church. The cloister is magnificent; it has a gallery, ornamented with columns of the doric and composite orders. This monastery is in a charming situation, and near the river.

Productions and Agriculture. The canton of Ciudad-Rodrigo produces a great quantity of cattle; there are many fine flocks of sheep, and many goats. Its principal crops consist of grains of all kinds, oil, wine, honey, and almonds. There is in the town an abundance of vegetables, fruits which are gathered from the surrounding gardens, from the banks of the Duero, and from the mountain Gata.

Ciudad-Rodrigo has also a Society of Friends of the Country, who pay great attention to the means necessary to ameliorate the cultivation, to raise the manufactories, to discover mines and quarries, and in short, for the instruction of youth. This town is indebted to them for a drawing-school. Yet it must be confessed, the country altogether does not answer their wishes; the soil is good, there are handsome and productive fields, and there is an abundance in certain places; but there might be still more, if agriculture on the other side of the river were more attended to, by making a better use of the water which the peasants have at hand. The environs of the town are handsome and fertile; but in the diocese there are many waste lands, fields without cultivation, fine hills and mountains of which nothing is made, and which might be enriched with plants of mulberry, olive, and other useful trees. There is in general a want of population, which is disadvantageous to cultivation.

Commerce and Manufactures. This town has now no more than the shadow of its ancient manufactories, in which fine tapestries, embroidery, laces, and other articles were made. The tanneries were also an important branch of labour; the leathers which they made were reputed the best in Europe, and were in great request among foreigners; there is now only one tannery, and that little thought of. There is also a manufactory for hard soap.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT RELATIVE TO THE KINGDOM OF LEON.

Population. There are in the kingdom of Leon 5,598 secuar priests, 2,064 monks, 1,570 nuns, 196 convents, 2,460 parish churhes, 2,695 villages, 31,540 nobles, 25,218 servants, and near 600,000 other inhabitants of all professions; which gives a total of about 665,000 persons. According to the statement of 1788, there were 112,514 within the jurisdiction of the intendant of Palencia. In that of Salamanca 210,380; in the jurisdiction of the intendant of Leon 250,134; and in that of Toro 92,404: altogether 665,432 individuals. It is also observable, that the clergy were more numerous formerly than at present.

Agriculture. Agriculture would be on a better footing in the kingdom of Leon, if some industrious method were employed for the watering of the land; for there are seventeen rivers which run in every direction through this country. There are fine rich pastures, notwithstanding which their flocks are sent from one part of the country to another. The mountains are covered with trees of different kinds, chiefly oak; but there are scarcely any in the plains and valleys; it is only in the most fertile parts that there are any fruit trees. The population of this kingdom has been much diminished, if we may judge from the extent of its towns, the half of which are not inhabited. In addition there are seventy-six deserted villages. The causes of this depopulation are the same as have affected the other provinces of Spain, and which we shall hereafter examine.

Commerce. The commerce of the kingdom of Leon consists chiefly of importation, and it scarcely furnishes any thing to the neighbouring provinces. It sends into Galicia a great part of the serges and baize manufactured at Rio-Seco; but these are objects of little importance compared to the goods it is obliged to import. It traffics in some wines: there are some excellent

cellent ones in the country towards the south-east; but that towards Galicia is very bad, cannot bear carriage, and must be consumed in the country. There were formerly at Palencia considerable manufactories for cloth. At Zamora there is still one for hats. They make some household cloths in the country. The English, by the way of Portugal, carry away the madder of the environs of Ciudad-Rodrigo, and of Medina-del-Campo.

Mineral Waters. There are four springs of cold mineral waters in the kingdom of Leon, namely, at Amusco, a small town three leagues and a half from Palencia; the spring is a league and a half from the town: at Buron, the spring, which is very plentiful, is in one of the streets of the town; the water is blackish, and smells of sulphur; it is erroneously thought to filter through mercury: at Bavila-Fuente, four leagues east of Salamanca; and Astudillo, a town five leagues from Palencia, near Aguilar-del-Campo; the spring called Cano of San-Jago-de-El-Val, is a league from this town. There are also four thermal springs, namely, near Almeyda, to the south-west, and at seven leagues from Zamora, which appears sulphureous, and is not drunk: at Ledesma*, near the river Tormes, and to the east of Ledesma, a Moor made a bath for the use of the public; the water is of a moderate heat; the bathers may plunge themselves up to their necks; it is very good for the cure of different diseases, chiefly the itch: it has also some muds, which are made use of: at Bonar, or Bonal, a small town six leagues from Leon, the spring, known by the name of Caldes de Bonar, issues from a rock near the town, on the flank of the mountain of Salon, at the side of St. Andrew's chapel; there are none of the ancient baths remaining: the water does not appear to differ from common water, and is lukewarm: lastly, at Barnos, near the frontiers of Estremadura and Castile. Diego de

* Ledesma is situated four or five leagues from the mouth of the Tormes. It has in its jurisdiction 380 villages, which have about 16,000 houses. This town is very ancient, and was formerly called Bletisa.

Torres

Torres has written on the waters of Vabila-Fuente, Astudillo, and Ledesma.

Character, Manners, Customs, and Dress. The inhabitants of the kingdom of Leon are very grave and taciturn; they greatly resemble those of Old Castile.

Among the remains of national costumes of Spain, and particularly of the kingdom of Leon, are those of the Mauregatos, not far from Astorga, in the mountains. They wear pyramidal hats, a kind of ruff round the neck, a jacket or short and close coat, wide breeches, and spatterdashes.

The Mauregatas, or women, wear large earrings, a kind of white turban, flat and widened like a hat, and their hair parted on the forehead. They have a chemise closed over the chest, and a brown corset buttoned, with large sleeves opening behind. Their petticoats and veils are also brown. Over all they wear immense coral necklaces, which descend from the neck to the knee: they twist them several times round the neck, pass them over the shoulders, where a row is fastened, forming a kind of bandage over the bosom. Then another row lower than this; in short, a third and fourth row at some distance from each other. The last falls over the knee, with a large cross on the right side. These necklaces or chapelets are ornamented with a great many silver medals, stamped with the figures of saints. They only wear these decorations when not working, or on festivals.

On the days of religious solemnities, particularly the assumption, the front of the churches are illuminated, bonfires made before them, musicians attend, and the people dance all night; the women play the castanets, and are accompanied by an instrument called Pandero, which is a kind of tambour de basque.

END OF THE SECOND VOLUME.

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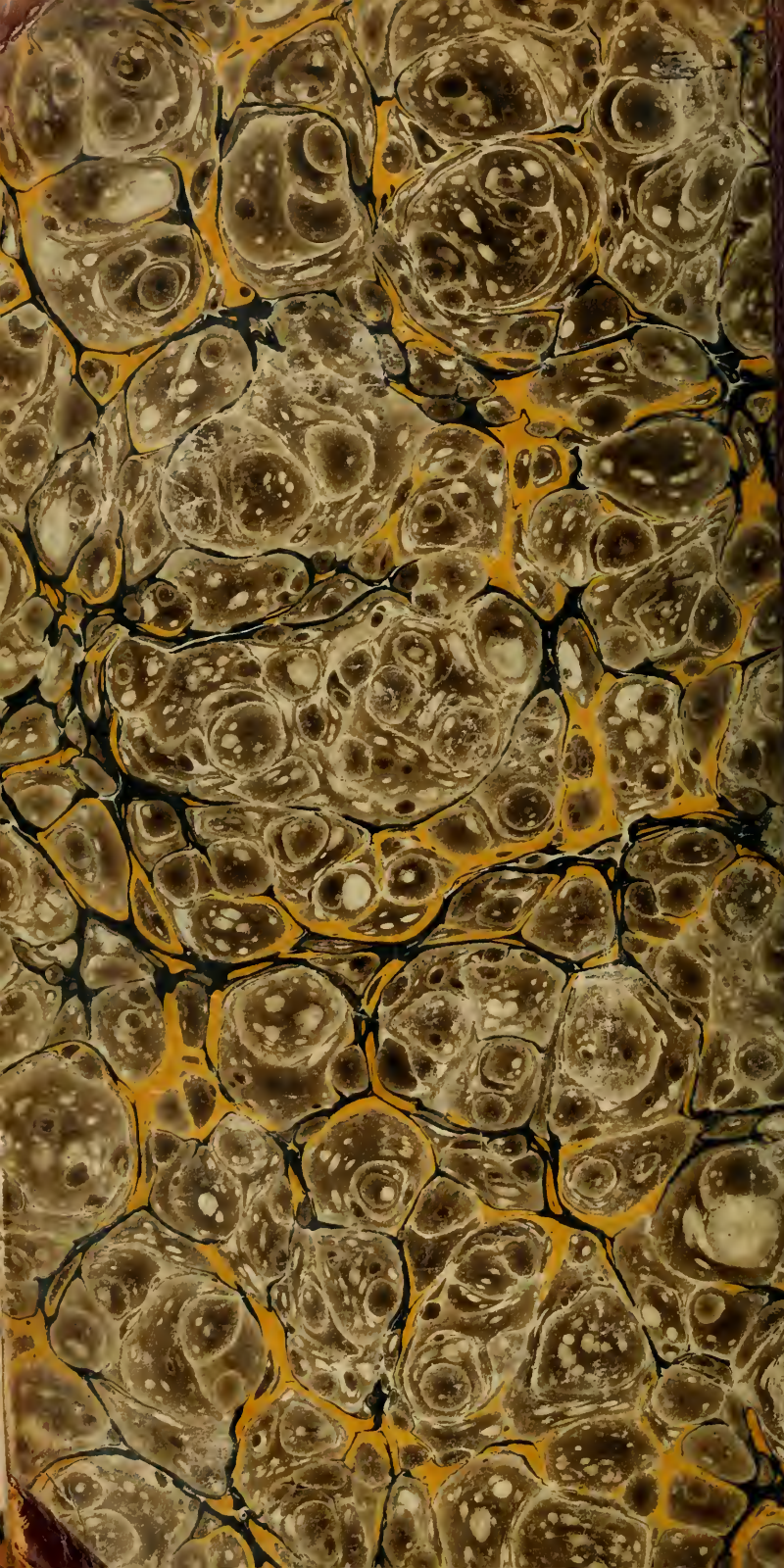
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